N

1941

SWEDEN

N 378

31 JAN 1941

2

Registry Number } N 378/378/42.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Mallet (Stockholm)

No. 78 decypher.

Dated 29th Jan. 1941.
Received in Registry 31st Jan.1941.

N: Sweden.

Anglo-Swedish Relations.

Swedish press criticises Mr. Nicolson's speech as painting a misleadingly black picture of Sweden today. Editors assume that this pciture is based on Mr. Mallet's reports.
Copied Ministry of Information.

Last Paper.

N 7550/112/42
40

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mr Mallet Stockholm (from Mr Collier) Feb. 11

8). Mr Kennedy Mem of Dec. Feb 11

Copy of Stockholm T8 sent to W.O. on N1249/41/30

2000 15/2

(Action completed.) Feb 1/4

(Index.) Feb 1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N644

(Minutes.)

See within Mr Kennedy Memo of 31/1 covering copy of Mr Nicholson's speech of 28/1

A. N. B. Ronfield
31/1

This speech was not submitted to the F.O.

Mr. Kennedy is sending me a copy.

It was only briefly reported in the British press, and only in some papers.

Mr. Kennedy tells me that it was well received by all the Swedes present, including the Minister and Press Attaché, though some of them were doubtful of the wisdom of the phrase quoted here about Sweden being unable to speak or hear the truth.

E. O. Cooter
31/1.

29675 Hear

21190 F.O.P. Liaison Dept 13/2

I attach the German broadcast comment —
in English for England.

L.O. Collier
31/1.

I don't expect Hitler has done the Swedes
any harm.
The german broadcast comment says
nothing of any statements offensive to
Sweden - and it would, here, be unwise to judge
on these if there had been any.

L. Collier
January 31st

I attach Mr Knatchbull-Hugessen's speech - I see nothing to criticise in it.

V.S. Vasey Lt-Col
I can't see any harm.
A.G. 1.6.3.1941.

after discussion with Mr Kenney, I annex a draft letter to Mr Mallet - L. Collier
February 4th
[seen by Sir O. Sargent]

N

N378 378/42

1 FEB 1941

4

Put with 20!

AMENDED DISTRIBUTION.

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWEDEN.

Decypher. Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).
29th January, 1941.

D. 10. 0 p.m. 29th January, 1941.

R. 6. 10 a.m. 30th January, 1941.

No: 78.

11111111

Nicolson's speech is generally considered here to paint a misleading black picture of Sweden to-day and the press criticises it accordingly.

Secretary-General told me to-day that he found the speech too patronising and rather unfair but he did not think it would do much harm. I reminded him that confiscation of Nicolson's book might well have prompted him to believe that Sweden was "unable to speak or hear the truth".

I hear that editors are assuming this picture of Sweden must be based on my reports to you.

[Copies sent to Ministry of Information].

FEB 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

AMBS 1/2.

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

Decypher. Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).

29th January, 1941.

D. 10. 0 p.m. 29th January, 1941.

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[Copies sent to Ministry of Information].

N

N 378
31 JAN 1941

b

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* see N. 6016/112/42 of 1940.

I hear that editors are assuming this picture of Sweden must be based on my reports to you.

[Copies sent to Ministry of Information].

31 JAN
F.O. REGISTRY

M.I. Rec'd 1/9/41.

Sir O. Sargent.

This is the text of Nicolson's address referred to in the Stockholm telegram which I sent to you yesterday.

I don't see that any reasonable Swede ought to complain of it.

L. Collier

February 1st.

Who are Rowland & Edward?

Mr. Kenney and Mr. Coote. L.C. Feb. 4th.

DIS Feb 2

My dear Edward: a few hurried minutes, which I have produced for the Ministry, for your own personal information. Bless you. Yours ever Rowland. 31/1

FP85/286

M.I. 2656 1/2/41.

With reference to Mr.Mallet's Telegram No.78 of 29th January, I saw Mr.Nicolson and suggested one or two points to him for his address, and I also read the typescript before it was delivered. To my mind it was an excellent address and it was obvious that nearly the whole audience regarded it as such. The Swedish Minister himself expressed his great satisfaction with the address and the hope that it would be widely published. Mr.Hammarling, the Swedish Press Attaché, also expressed his pleasure and the view that no one could really complain about it. I understand that, after the meeting, one or two of the Swedish journalists expressed their displeasure to Mr. Swenne, who had convened the meeting, basing their complaint upon the phrase- she, Sweden, "is unable, even in her own family circle, to speak or hear the truth".

Mr.Swenne was much annoyed with his colleagues as he felt that the speech was well-balanced and no one could complain except disgruntled persons who removed one sentence from its context. He told me also that nearly the whole audience had expressed to him their pleasure at having heard the speech and in regard to its contents.

No doubt German propaganda has seized upon one or two sentences and is making all they can of them. I attach an intercept of the (German) "Transocean" message.

With regard to the question of Sweden hearing the truth, there is the point that Rauschning's book "Hitler Speaks" was confiscated, Mr.Nicolson's own book, "Why Britain is at War", after having been edited and translated was confiscated; further deletions were made and a second edition was produced and that also was confiscated, and it would be interesting to know how much truth the Swedes are allowed to hear, much less publish, from Germany and her occupied territories.

we know from Mr Mallet that the Swedish govt. has undertaken not to allow the publication of travellers' reports on conditions in Germany. L.c. Feb. 12th.

I imagine that many Swedes, while protesting against some of the statements made, will be pleased that at last they have been made as they will awaken many of their compatriots to some unpleasant facts.

The Anglo Swedish Society, no doubt taking the cue from the Swedish Minister's laudatory remarks, are having the address printed for distribution.

31.1.41

28/1/41 - No. 3.

9

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE DELIVERY AGAINST WHICH IT SHOULD BE CHECKED

Address by Mr. Harold Nicolson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information, delivered at a luncheon of the Anglo-Swedish Society in London at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28th 1941.

The last occasion on which I addressed a meeting of this nature was in the Spring of 1934, when I had the honour of delivering a lecture upon modern diplomacy to the Anglo-Swedish Society in Stockholm. I recall with pleasure a luncheon which was given to me by some professors of the Stockholm University. It was a warm May afternoon and we took our coffee afterwards seated under a gigantic willow tree discussing the eternal problem of the relation between civilisation and power. It was a period at which Sweden, to many Englishmen, seemed to be the type and model of the perfect social State. I had been visiting your schools and playing grounds, your housing estates and your factories, your museums and palaces, your parks and theatres. It seemed to me that you had combined all that was most venerable in your ancient tradition with all that was most progressive in the new world. You had your Storkyrka and your City Hall; you had your music and gymnastics; you had your venerable and yet advanced monarchical institutions; you had the legacy of the three great administrations of Branting which seemed, in international as well as in national affairs, to have found the middle way between conservatism and revolution and to have created the completely civilised State. It seemed to us that Sweden constituted both an example and a reproof to all the world. How vulgar, in comparison seemed the might and majesty of great Empires; how unintelligent and anti-social seemed the wastage of national resources upon vast fleets and armies; how meaningless seemed the boast of democratic freedom in countries which proclaimed their political liberties but were unable to solve the fundamental problems of social justice.

I returned from that memorable visit with a new idea. It seemed to me that the important thing in the twentieth century was to create communities which were the reflection of the perfectly balanced mind. It seemed to me that national energy and national pride need no longer find their outlet in great movements of expansion or great ostentations of power, and that the glory of any country was to be sought, not in the extent of its possessions, but in the degree to which its citizens were enabled to live confident and self-reliant lives. Sweden in those spring days of 1934 had appeared to me so happy, so independent, so secure. Was this all a legend? Was it all but a pathetic fallacy? Is it true, in other words, that no country can hope to develop its own civilisation unless it be at the same time possessed of tremendous physical power? Such are the thoughts which must be troubling all of us today.

Sweden today finds herself in a position of distressing isolation. She is encircled by Powers whose traditions are less ancient than her own traditions, whose ways of life are less civilised than hers, and whose conception of national and individual liberty is wholly different from that which in all these centuries the Swedish mind has evolved for itself. Liberty of action is denied to her; her dignity is assaulted; her self-reliance is being undermined; her national unity of which she was so proud, is being disintegrated by foreign influences; and she is unable, even in her own family circle to speak or hear the truth.

/Yet let

Yet let us not believe for an instant that the reputation which Sweden earned for herself in the first forty years of this century was a false reputation; let us not for one instant discredit the authenticity of the Swedish legend. It was a true and deserved reputation; it is a legend that will again when once we have broken the power which threatens to enslave her become an inspiration to her own people and an example to Europe. Let Sweden have the courage to remember her old ideals; let her have the heart to preserve her own pride; let her retain that firm and balanced mind which shall convince her that civilisation is a more important thing than power; and let her preserve that dignity which has given her so many centuries of national culture and will still render her one of the pioneers of European thought and order. For, in truth, the Swedish ideal is founded upon the spirit and is maintained by free intelligence; it relies for its strength upon the diversity of human thought and not upon the uniformity of physical compulsion; it is independent of historical disasters or transitory personalities; it is the life-blood of an ancient race.

You Swedes living here in London, in darkness and in danger, in exile and anxiety, must be glad to feel that you are the trustees of your country's heritage. You hear the truth; you know the truth and you can tell the truth. We, your English friends, ask you only to watch and wait. Our victory will be your victory. In the new world which we and our cousins overseas will have to build, you also must play your part. For our New Order will not be based upon the enslavement of Europe but upon its liberation. And when the day of victory comes let us not forget either our old happy dreams or our present nightmares. Let us remember that every civilisation, however perfect in itself, must have the will to defend its own community and the unselfishness to combine with other similarly minded countries to render that defence effective. In our New Order there will be no slave-states. There will be a community of free peoples, each working out its own problems, not upon a uniform pattern imposed by foreign power, but in accordance with its own temperament and traditions. And, above that, there will be a union of peoples, each one of whom will sacrifice something of its political and economic independence for the good, and for the defence, of the community as a whole. We shall never abolish either poverty or war by merely repeating that we wish to do so. We must co-operate, organise and plan. And to that conception Sweden, if she can keep her mind and soul untainted will have a proud contribution to make.

I speak to you now during the lull before the great battle. We all know that this Second Battle of Britain will be ferocious and perhaps far-flung. But you here, who know us and understand us, know also that never has any country been so united in resistance or so confident in its cause. We British have only been defeated when we felt uncertain whether right was on our side. We know today that we have with us the courage and determination of our own people and the conscience of half the world. We do not ask for sympathy, still less for admiration. We ask only for confidence. And that confidence will not be betrayed.

We are a proud people, who, in eight hundred years, have spread out from this tiny island across the Seven seas. There were those who said that our prosperity had softened us and that we had become decadent and self-indulgent. It is true that we are a profoundly civilian people and that we detest war. But we are also, as Herr von Ribbentrop might have noticed, ferociously independent. We know now that this great battle is a fight for our independence. And under our bull-dog leader we shall fight that battle, whatever the cost, until for the fourth time in our history, we have saved the world.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

N 378/378/42

L.C.

Draft

Mr. Mallet,
Stockholm.

(From Mr. Collier)

Copy to Mr. Kenney
Min. of Information
with comps and ref.

OUT FILE 8 February, 1941.

4.
11

Dear Mallet,

In view of your telegram No. 78 of January 29th you may like to have the following information about Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society.

The draft of the speech was not sent to the Foreign Office in advance, as ~~ought~~ it ~~to~~ should have been ~~done~~; and this has been pointed out to the Ministry of Information. Even if we had seen the draft, however, I do not think we should have taken any exception to it. As you will have seen from the full text of the speech, which has now been sent to you, most of it ~~is~~ was highly complimentary to Sweden; and Swedes who complain because it ~~is~~ was not all jam remind me of the actress who, when asked what sort of criticism she preferred, replied: "Oh, fulsome flattery is good enough for me!" Prytz and the Committee

of/

of the Anglo-Swedish Society are so pleased with it that they are having it printed for distribution; and I understand that the newspaper storm in a teacup was due to ~~the~~ misleading reports sent home by two disgruntled Swedish journalists here, Viklund and Bolander, the latter whom, you will remember, we tried to get expelled last year - and I wish now that we had succeeded in expelling him. Prytz and Hammarling, his Press Attaché, are displeased with these journalists; and Hammarling has gone out of his way to emphasise to Kenney of the Ministry of Information that their views are not shared by the Legation.

The fact is, of course, that any reference to the pro-German character of the Swedish censorship touches many Swedes on the raw, just because it is true; but for the same reason it is something that the Swedes ought not to be allowed to forget.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

13

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

8th February, 1941.

(N 378/378/42)

Dear Mallet,

In view of your telegram No. 78 of 29th January you may like to have the following information about Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society.

The draft of the speech was not sent to the Foreign Office in advance, as it should have been; and this has been pointed out to the Ministry of Information. Even if we had seen the draft, however, I do not think we should have taken any exception to it. As you will have seen from the full text of the speech, which has now been sent to you, most of it was highly complimentary to Sweden; and Swedes who complain because it was not all jam remind me of the actress who, when asked what sort of criticism she preferred, replied: "Oh, fulsome flattery is good enough for me!" Prytz and the Committee of the Anglo-Swedish Society are so pleased with it that they are having it printed for distribution; and I understand that the newspaper storm in a teacup was due to misleading reports sent home by two disgruntled Swedish journalists here, Viklund and Bolander, the latter of whom, you will remember, we tried to get expelled last year - and I wish now that we had succeeded in expelling him. Prytz and Hammarling, his Press Attaché, are displeased with these journalists and Hammarling has gone out of his way to emphasise to Kenney of the Ministry of Information that their views are not shared by the Legation.

The/

V.A.L. Mallet, Esq., C.M.G., C.V.O.
Stockholm.

14

The fact is, of course, that any reference to the pro-German character of the Swedish censorship touches many Swedes on the raw, just because it is true; but for the same reason it is something that the Swedish public ought not to be allowed to forget.

Yours ever,

(Signed) LAURENCE COLLIER.

P.S. Prytz, with whom I dined the other night to celebrate the success of "Operation Rubble", told me that he had satisfied the Swedish Foreign Office that there was nothing in Harold Nicolson's speech to which he ought to have taken exception. He also said - quite spontaneously - that he wished we had succeeded in getting rid of Bolander last year!

2

15

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 644

19 FEB 1941

Registry Number N 644/378/42.

FROM Mr. Kenney (Ministry of Information)

to Mr. Collier

No. F.P.85/286

Dated 18th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 19th Feb.1941.

N: Sweden.

Mr. Nicholson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society.

Refers to N 378/378/42. Does not think the evidence justifies an attack on either Bolander or Viklund. Gives the text and translation of their cabled comments on Mr. Nicholson's speech showing that the Swedish press did not reproduce the passages correctly.

Last Paper.

(N 378)

References.

(*Print.*)

~~Dft Mr Berg~~ (from dictated Collier) Feb 21

Dft H. Hallet Stockholm (from Mr Collier) Feb. 22.

Mr Collier's compts & Mr Kenney's thanks (28) Feb. 25.

Dft Mr Kenney (MoI) (from Mr Collier) March 5

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
1/3/41	4686 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 644

(*Minutes.*) See this letter of Feb 24 from Mons Berg to Mr. Collier.

after interviews with MM. Viklund & Bolander, I annex a further draft letter to Mr Mallet.

Liaison Dept. (a-a.)

Ans R. 26/2

L.C. Feb. 20th.

1. Now please see my letter to M. Berg about M. Viklund, & his reply.

I annex a copy of a letter on this subject which I have written to Mr Kenney.

Liaison Dept. L.C. March 5th.

Travel

Any *further* communication should be addressed to :—

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,

and the following reference should be quoted :—

FP 85/286

Telephone Number : EUSton 4321.
Telegrams : MINIFORM, LONDON.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

N 844

19 FEB 1941

8th February, 1941

Enter. 16 and let me minute. L. Feb 18th

My dear Collier,

With reference to your letter N 378/378/42 of 8th February to Mallet about the reactions to Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society, a copy of which was sent to the Ministry of Information, and to our recent conversation on the matter, I think the evidence does not justify an attack on either Viklund or Bolander.

The reports on the speech sent by all the Swedish journalists were passed by the Cable Censors. Bolander's cable on 28th January was an exact translation, his only comment being:

"HAN UTTRYCKSGAV EN ÖVERRASKANDE PESSIMISTISK UPPFATTNING OM NATIONELLA ENIGHET OCH YTTRANDEFRIHET NURÄDANDE SVERIGE".

("He (Harold Nicolson) expressed a surprisingly pessimistic view of the national unity and freedom of speech in present-day Sweden")

In his cable of 28th January Viklund gave an introductory account of the people present and the Swedish Minister's remarks. He sent his report of the speech in English and ended with this sentence:-

"SVENSKA PRESSATTACHÉN LONDON VILGOT HAMMARLING GAV SENARE KORT INFORMERANDE ÖVERSIKT SVERIGES FAKTISKA EKONOMISKA OCH POLITISKA DAGSLÄGE".

("Afterwards the Swedish Press Attaché in London, Vilgot Hammarling, gave a short survey of the actual economic and political situation in Sweden.")

According to Stockholm Press Summary Empax No.02531 of 31st January, the reports in "Dagens Nyheter" and "Svenska Dagbladet" were based on, but not identical with, the actual cables sent from London by Viklund and Bolander, and it cannot be said that the following is a strictly correct or exact reproduction of the passages quoted above.

"Swedish correspondents in London comment as follows: SVENSKA correspondent - Nicolson painted a black misleading picture of Sweden's national unity and freedom. DAGSNYHETER correspondent says the Swedish Press Attaché corrected Nicolson's view of Sweden's position."

/In

Laurence Collier, Esq., C.M.G.
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

In their cables of 29th January both Viklund and Bolander sent straight reports of the "Daily Herald" leading article, which commented somewhat sarcastically on Harold Nicolson's speech. I understand material which has already appeared in the British Press is seldom censored in foreign cables except on security grounds, and we really cannot complain about journalists reporting British leading articles.

As I have mentioned to you on one or two occasions Bolander has an unfortunate manner which upsets most people with whom he comes in contact, and this gets him a bad name in many quarters, although on examination of his actual work we find he has done nothing to justify it. Moreover, in considering Bolander's position we should never overlook the Swedish Minister's personal feelings about him, and I imagine that M. Prytz's feelings have carried him away on this occasion! (Incidentally I hear that the Swedish Minister has now apparently changed his attitude somewhat, for a few days ago Hammarling telephoned to Swenne and suggested that it would be better not to follow out M. Prytz's original suggestion of having the Harold Nicolson talk printed in Swedish for distribution among the Swedish Colony here!).

Viklund is in quite a different category. He is one of the most straight-forward and sincere men I know; but he is very sensitive and for that reason he resents most strongly any suggestion that foreign journalists should be used in the slightest degree as propagandists for any country in which they happen to reside.

There is one other point I should like to mention. Under existing censorship regulations neutral journalists are allowed to indulge in fair comment in their reports, and we have boasted - and quite rightly, I think you will agree - that we have still considerable freedom of both pen and speech. Moreover, any attempt to persuade the Northern countries' correspondents to write against their convictions would be disastrous.

Yours ever,

Rowland Kenney

There has never been any question of that.

OUT FILE

181.

N644/378/42

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

21st February, 1941.

Dear Berg,

I had occasion yesterday to see a Swedish journalist, Viklund, the London correspondent of the Stockholm "Dagens Nyheter", whom I had never seen before but who is by all accounts a very honest man and a genuine democrat idealist.

In the course of the conversation, which had started on a Swedish subject, Viklund said he was troubled at the amount of Swedish-Norwegian misunderstanding that there seemed to be and that, though he could readily appreciate that Norwegians in general did not feel very kindly towards Sweden just now, he thought something could and ought to be done to improve the atmosphere and was himself willing to help in this if he could get into touch with a Norwegian to whom he could talk frankly and who understood Swedish conditions.

At this point your name came into my mind; and I took the liberty of mentioning it to him and of saying that I would mention his name to you - so I do so now, though I do not of course expect you to follow up his approach if you do not think it desirable to do so.

As I have said above, I have not previously met Viklund; but he is well-known to Kenney, who runs the Scandinavian Section in the Ministry of Information and was formerly Press Attaché at Oslo, and Kenney says he is one of the best Swedes he has met.

(Sgd.) L.COLLIER.

Monsieur Hans Berg,
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

OUT FILE

Registry
No:
N 644/378/42

L.C.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,
Stockholm.

(From Mr. Collier)

22 February, 1941.

Dear Mallet,

There have now been some further developments in the matter of the press storm over Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society, which I think I ought to report to you in continuation of my letter N 378/378/42 of February 8th.

The first of these is that the actual texts of the reports sent home by the two journalists, Viklund and Bolander, have now been obtained from the cable censors and show that Viklund's report contained nothing tendentious, while Bolander's was equally harmless except for one sentence to the effect that Nicolson had expressed "a surprisingly pessimistic view of national unity and freedom of speech in present-day Sweden". The only other conceivable cause of the storm may have been cables from both these journalists reporting a leading article in the "Daily Herald" which was somewhat critical of the speech, mainly however on grounds connected with that paper's particular hobby, the campaign in favour of a declaration about "war aims". Anyhow, the editors of both the newspapers in question not only wrote leading articles of an unnecessarily peevish nature, but also gave misleading summaries of the correspondents' actual reports. It therefore seems to be the editors and not the correspondents who are to blame.

The/

Copy to Mr. Kenney
Ministry of and
Information with
comps and ref.

Liaison Dept.
(a.a.)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

The second development is that it came to the ears of both Viklund and Bolander (apparently through Hammarling, who is inclined to talk too much and to try to be "all things to all men") that enquiries were being made into their reports of the speech; and as a result of this both of them came to protest their innocence to Kenney, who advised them to come and see me. I accordingly saw first Viklund and then Bolander on February 20th, and told them that, as far as I was concerned, they were free to send home any reports on such subjects and that I had had enquiries made, not to get them into trouble, but simply because I wanted to know, for my own information and that of my chiefs, how it could have come about that what seemed to me an ~~comparatively~~ innocuous speech should have caused such excitement in Stockholm. They both said that they did not think there had in fact been much excitement and assured me that they had not intended to create any - which I can believe, in the case of Viklund at least.

N.P.

As to Bolander, I told him that we must agree to differ as to whether Nicolson's view of freedom of speech in Sweden could fairly be described as "surprisingly pessimistic", but that I did not take exception to his expressing surprise at Nicolson's reference to the disintegration of Swedish national unity (which, between ourselves, I feel was not altogether justified: it would have been better if he had said that "attempts were being made to disintegrate national unity"). In any

case/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

case, however, as I told them both, I was only interested in their reports from the point of view of finding out what had or had not caused this storm in a teacup, which, we all agreed, was somewhat inexplicable, and that I would never be a party to using the censorship for the purpose of interfering with anything other than the dissemination of news likely to be of assistance to the enemy, which Bolander, at least, had seemed to fear. (He, of course, has reasons of his own, dating from last year, for fearing that the censorship might have a "down" on him; but, from what I have now learnt about last year's incident, I am not so sure that he was guilty of anything beyond indiscretion".)

I think both journalists felt fairly happy when they left me; and, in any case, I am satisfied, and so is Kenney, that whatever trouble there may have been was the fault of their editors. I put it to them that it was odd that editors, who themselves suffered from the Swedish censorship and from the threat of press prosecutions which the notorious M. Westmann is always holding over the Swedish Press, should become indignant when someone else ~~says~~ said what they ~~themselves~~ must be feeling; and their reply was, first that the reports sent home ~~by~~ to the British Press had exaggerated the indignation, and, secondly, that if there had been any indignation, it was due to finding a foreigner saying what they preferred to be said by Swedes alone - so I suppose that is the explanation.

Yours ever,
(sd) Laurence Collier
L.C. / Feb. 20th.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

22

OUT FILE

(N 644/378/42) FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

22nd February, 1941.

Dear Mallet,

There have now been some further developments in the matter of the press storm over Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society, which I think I ought to report to you in continuation of my letter N 378/378/42 of 8th February.

The first of these is that the actual texts of the reports sent home by the two journalists, Viklund and Bolander, have now been obtained from the cable censors and show that Viklund's report contained nothing tendentious, while Bolander's was equally harmless except for one sentence to the effect that Nicolson had expressed "a surprisingly pessimistic view of national unity and "freedom of speech in present-day Sweden". The only other conceivable cause of the storm may have been cables from both these journalists reporting a leading article in the "Daily Herald" which was somewhat critical of the speech, mainly however on grounds connected with that paper's particular hobby, the campaign in favour of a declaration about "war aims". Anyhow, the editors of both the newspapers in question not only wrote leading articles of an unnecessarily peevish nature, but also gave misleading summaries of the correspondents' actual reports. It therefore seems to be the editors and not the correspondents who are to blame.

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Hammarling,

V.A.L.Mallet, Esq., C.M.G., C.V.O.,
British Legation,
Stockholm.

Hammarling, who is inclined to talk too much and to try to be "all things to all men") that enquiries were being made into their reports of the speech; and as a result of this both of them came to protest their innocence to Kenney, who advised them to come and see me. I accordingly saw first Viklund and then Bolander on 20th February, and told them that, as far as I was concerned, they were free to send home any reports on such subjects and that I had had enquiries made, not to get them into trouble, but simply because I wanted to know, for my own information and that of my chiefs, how it could have come about that what seemed to me an innocuous speech should have caused such excitement in Stockholm. They both said that they did not think there had in fact been much excitement and assured me that they had not intended to create any - which I can believe, in the case of Viklund at least.

As to Bolander, I told him that we must agree to differ as to whether Nicolson's view of freedom of speech in Sweden could fairly be described as "surprisingly "pessimistic", but that I did not take exception to his expressing surprise at Nicolson's reference to the disintegration of Swedish national unity (which, between ourselves, I feel was not altogether justified: it would have been better if he had said that "attempts were being "made to disintegrate national unity"). In any case, however, as I told them both, I was only interested in their reports from the point of view of finding out what had or had not caused this storm in a teacup, which, we all agreed, was somewhat inexplicable, and that I would never be a party to using the censorship for the purpose of interfering with anything other than the dissemination of news likely to be of assistance to the enemy, which

Bolander,

Bolander, at least, had seemed to fear. (He, of course, has reasons of his own, dating from last year, for fearing that the censorship might have a "down" on him; but, from what I have now learnt about last year's incident, I am not so sure that he was guilty of anything beyond indiscretion.)

I think both journalists felt fairly happy when they left me; and, in any case, I am satisfied, and so is Kenney, that whatever trouble there may have been was the fault of their editors. I put it to them that it was odd that editors who themselves suffered from the Swedish censorship and from the threat of press prosecutions which the notorious M. Westmann is always holding over the Swedish Press, should become indignant when someone else said what they must be feeling; and their reply was, first that the reports sent home to the British Press had exaggerated the indignation, and secondly, that if there had been any indignation, it was due to finding a foreigner saying what they preferred to be said by Swedes alone - so I suppose that is the explanation.

Yours ever

(sd) Laurence Collier.

M.L
Ans 10/10/41.

attach to paper
& send in 25

INDEXED

Royal Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

KINGSTON HOUSE,
PRINCE'S GATE,
LONDON, S.W.7.

London, 24th February 1941

Dear Collier,

Many thanks for your letter of the 21st inst., informing me of your conversation with Mr. Viklund. I shall, of course, be only too glad to meet Mr. Viklund, whose paper, the "Dagens Nyheter" is rightly considered one of the very best of all Scandinavian newspapers, and now more important than ever before.

Yours ever
Hans Berg

Laurence Collier Esq., C.M.G.
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

N 644/378/42

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1., 26

5th March, 1941.

OUT FILE

Dear Kenney,

You will remember that on February 21st I wrote to Berg ab ut Viklund and his anxiety to improve Swedish-Norwegian relations, and sent you a copy of my letter.

Berg has now replied, as shown on the enclosed copy of his letter; but it looks as if he expected Viklund to make the next move. I don't know much about Viklund - as you know, I have only met him once - and I gather that he is rather a shy person for a journalist; and, if you think it would make things easier for him, I would be prepared to arrange a lunch for him , Berg and yourself at my club, or something of that sort, to avoid the necessity for his making a formal call on Berg at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. What do you think of this idea?

I see from last night's "Evening Standard" that Prytz and Lie have already got together. I gather that contrary to the account given there, it was Prytz and not Lie who made the first move.

(Sgd.) L.COLLIER.

R. Kenney Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

3

1941

N

SWEDEN

27

N 854

6 MAR 1941

Registry Number } N 854/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) to Mr. Collier.

No.

Dated (78/3/41).

Received in Registry } 6th Feb. 1941. 6th Mar. 1941

N: Sweden.

Return to London of M. Gisle, Commercial Counsellor in London.

Gisle will now be returning to London. His visit has been useful in many ways, not least because he has given inspiriting account of London under war conditions. Reports also pro-British publicity being given by von Rosen, Military Attaché.

Last Paper.

N644

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) W.O. M.I.2b. (Major Tamplin) Mar. 14

(Minutes.)

~~E.C.F. Dept.~~ Copy to War Office M.I.2b ~~Copy to~~. (w/c Major Tamplin).

B. Schofield 12/3.

Mr. Gisle is now back.

E.O. Cooke. 12/3.

Liaison Dept. 15 March

Mr. Hopkinson.

L.C. March 13th.

DMO 31/3

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

FO 1479/41.

Next Paper.

N872

N 854
6 MAR 1941

Enter 28 14 5

(78/3/41)

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
6th February, 1941.

1 c.

My dear Collier,

Gisle will be returning by this aeroplane. His visit has been useful in many ways, not least because he has given an inspiriting account of London under war conditions.

His optimism has been strongly reinforced by the arrival of von Rosen, the Military Attaché. This officer, who belongs to a family which is generally considered pro-German, has been going round Stockholm saying that Britain can't be beaten and that the invasion, if attempted, must end in disaster to the Germans. He has given at least two lectures to senior officers of the Army and Air Force and the result is a considerable rise in our stock. He is in fact telling the Swedes just what most of them would like to hear but what they are inclined to doubt when they get it from British rather than Swedish sources.

Yours ever
Victor Mallet

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office.

4

29

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 872

6 MAR 1941

Registry Number } N 872/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).

No. 27 (76/1/41).

Dated 28th Jan. 1941.

Received in Registry } 6th Mar. 1941.

N: Sweden.

Confiscation of pro-British publication in Sweden.

Reports confiscation of third edition of Swedish publication entitled "England Vita Bok" (England's White Book) and protest made to Secretary-General of Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Copy Ministry of Information.)

Last Paper.

N854

References.

N873/12/4

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mr Mallet Stockholm (from Mr Collier) Mar. 18

Copied Mr Collier's comps to Mr Kenney Min of Inf. Mar. 18

(Action completed.)

Dealt 24/3

(Index.)

Index 16/9/41.

Next Paper.

N913

(Minutes.)

A. D. B. Denfield 12/3.

I think we may agree with Mr. Mallet that there is no point in pursuing this particular case further.

Liaison with Min of Inf. Dept (a.a.) particularly E. O. Coote. 12/3.

This was a bad case; and if we had heard of it sooner (for example, if Mr. Mallet had reported on it by telegram, as I think he ought to have done), I would have recommended that we should take further action. As it is, however, it is too late.

I annex a draft letter to Mr. Mallet.

~~Liaison~~ L. Collier March 13th.

O.K. Gaunt 14/3/41

21190 F.O.P

N 8721/3787/42

30 11

No. 27
(76/1/41)

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
28th January, 1941.

Sir,

The Swedish Minister of Justice on January 24th ordered the confiscation of the third edition of a Swedish publication entitled "Englands Vita Bok" (England's White Book) which had just appeared from the press.

2. The publication is in fact a translation of Command Paper 2160 of 1939, "Papers concerning the Treatment of German Nationals in Germany". The first edition of this translation appeared in December 1939 and a second edition in February 1940. The publisher is Fant's Nordiska Förlag, and before the original edition was brought out this Legation was asked to check the translation. Owing to German excesses in Norway the earlier editions of this publication have recently been selling well and a total of 7,000 copies has been exhausted. A third edition was brought out without any instigation from this Legation. I understand that the attention of the Minister of Justice having been directed to this publication, though not by the German Legation, brought the matter before the Cabinet who approved his proposal to confiscate it. It was apparently believed at the time that the book contained only extracts from the British White Paper and was not a complete translation. Earlier editions totalling 25,000 copies issued by three other publishing houses are apparently unaffected by the ban, though I understand that the police are in fact trying to round up as many copies as possible.

3. On January 24th a member of my staff was informed of the intended confiscation by an official at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, who excused the action on the ground that it was only fair that this publication should be stopped in view of the fact that last November three offensive anti-British pamphlets had also been confiscated. To-day I visited the Secretary General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and complained strongly of this confiscation. I pointed out that it was a ridiculous action more than a year after the first edition had appeared and I could only explain it by the fact that the party of German journalists referred to in my despatch No. 30 of to-day's date were arriving that day in Stockholm. Monsieur Boheman denied that this had anything to do with the matter, but admitted that when the confiscation was ordered it had not been realised that the Swedish publication was a complete translation of our White Paper and not a summary of a series of extracts. Nevertheless he thought that there were things in the White Paper which could well be classified as liable to damage relations between Sweden and Germany. When Monsieur Boheman argued that the three anti-British pamphlets referred to above and two offensive numbers of "Dagens Eko" in December had been suppressed for our benefit I pointed out to him that the balance of confiscations since this Law had been resuscitated was still heavily against us and in favour of our enemies. I suggested that three other offensive pamphlets published some time ago by "Svea Rikes Förlag" ought also to be confiscated and reminded Monsieur Boheman that I had spoken to him about them some weeks ago. He replied that he had not forgotten but that they were out of print and no longer on sale and therefore it was

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

was impossible to confiscate them; he seemed however to agree with my suggestion that if fresh editions came out they ought to be suppressed. He then went on to tell me that the main difficulty with the more offensive German propaganda sheets was that they were not published here but attempted to evade the Swedish law by entering Sweden through the post. The Swedish Government were very much alive to the danger of propaganda coming in from Germany and a form of censorship was being exercised which could not be effective in every case. As an instance he told me that recently 14,000 copies of a particularly obnoxious leaflet against Great Britain had been seized by the Swedish police. On the other hand when the question had arised of stopping the circulation of an article by Dr. Megerle advocating that Sweden should accept the doctrine of Germany's overlordship over Scandinavia Monsieur Boheman had himself decided that the leaflet should be allowed to circulate as nothing could be better calculated to irritate the Swedes against Germany.

4. Monsieur Boheman privately confessed that he thought that the confiscation of which I was now complaining had been rather unnecessary and undertaken without sufficient investigation; but officially he was not prepared to tender any expression of regret or to take any action in the matter.

5. I see no advantage in pursuing this dispute further. I feel that by never letting such cases of confiscation go by without protest I manage to secure some measure of restraint in the activities of the Ministry of Justice. The Swedish Government do not like being thought badly of by His Majesty's Government, and when I told Monsieur Boheman I should have to report this case to you he was obviously a good deal distressed.

6. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Ministry of Information.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

Registry No.
N [redacted]2/378/42

OUT FILE

F. O.,

18 March , 1941

L.C.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,
STOCKHOLM.

(From Mr. Collier)

Copy to Mr. Kenney,
Ministry of Information
with comps. and ref.

Liaison Dept. (a-a)
21 March

Dear Mallet,

I have read with interest your despatch No. 27 of January 28th on the confiscation of the Swedish translation of our White Book on German concentration camps; and, though so much time has now elapsed that I agree that we cannot pursue the case further, I feel, for the reasons given below, that it was almost an ideal case on which to have a show-down with the Swedish Government and ~~it~~ might well have been reported by telegram.

In the first place, there was no question in this case of representations ~~of~~ from the German Legation; and, as you pointed out to Boheman, the publication had been on the bookstalls for more than a year. Moreover, ~~this~~ it was not ~~the~~ a case of a personal attack on the head of a foreign State (such as was alleged in that ~~case~~ of Harold Nicolson's book); and Boheman's defence of the confiscation was based on an argument (that the document was likely to damage relations between Sweden and Germany) which would logically justify the suppression of any anti-German propaganda ~~whatsoever~~ in sweden of that kind. Finally, Boheman practically admitted that the confiscation ought not to have taken place, but said that he was not prepared to express regret or take any action in the matter - a proceeding which surely gave us an opening for taking the matter up more formally and with higher authorities.

I notice that your counter-argument to Boheman ~~this~~

was/

was that the balance of confiscations was against us; but, as I have been authorised to tell you in previous letters, our view here is that we ought to press, not for the suppression of offensive attacks upon us, save in exceptional cases, but for the greatest possible freedom for both sides, and, in particular, not ~~to~~ admit, even by implication, ~~provided~~ that pro-German publications of the same sort are also suppressed, ~~that~~ a neutral government are justified in suppressing a pro-British publication merely because it might damage their relations with Germany.

I have been wondering for some time past whether the time ~~has~~ not come to make a frontal attack on the notorious M. Westmann and his methods; and I ~~shall~~ should be glad of your views on the desirability of taking the next opportunity of this sort to bring matters to a head. I am told that Westmann is personally unpopular with his colleagues and that it only needs a strong and formal protest against his conduct to induce them to adopt a less complaisant attitude towards him in future. On this occasion he seems to have brought the matter before the Cabinet on his own initiative and rushed it through, on Boheman's confession, without proper investigation; and I cannot help suspecting that, if ~~they~~ his colleagues had thought that it would create serious trouble with us, they would not have been so easily persuaded. As you say, "the Swedish Government do not like being thought badly of by H.M. Government"; and

Boheman's/

Boheman's distress, on learning that you would rpport this case to the Secretary of State, seems to show that, if strong action were ~~is~~ taken in ~~on~~ a case ~~of this kind~~ that, there might be a chance of clipping ~~Westarp's~~ his wings immediate for the future, even if we got no satisfaction.

where Westarp was obviously in the wrong

B. S. Hardy

Yours ever
(sd) L. Cohen.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

35

(N 872/378/42)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

18th March, 1941.

Dear Mallet,

I have read with interest your despatch No.27 of 28th January on the confiscation of the Swedish translation of our White Book on German concentration camps; and, though so much time has now elapsed that I agree that we cannot pursue the case further, I feel, for the reasons given below, that it was almost an ideal case on which to have a show-down with the Swedish Government and might well have been reported by telegram.

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I notice that your counter-argument to Boheman was that the balance of confiscations was against us; but, as I have been authorised to tell you in previous letters, our

view

V.A.L.Mallet, Esq., C.M.G., C.V.O.,
British Legation,
Stockholm.

view here is that we ought to press, not for suppression of offensive attacks upon us, save in exceptional cases, but for the greatest possible freedom for both sides, and, in particular, that we should not admit, even by implication, that if pro-German publications of the same sort are also suppressed, a neutral government are justified in suppressing a pro-British publication merely because it might damage their relations with Germany.

I have been wondering for some time past whether the time has not come to make a frontal attack on the notorious M. Westmann and his methods; and I should be glad of your views on the desirability of taking the next opportunity of this sort to bring matters to a head. I am told that Westmann is personally unpopular with his colleagues and that it only needs a strong and formal protest against his conduct to induce them to adopt a less complaisant attitude towards him in future (though that may, of course, be an over-optimistic view). On this occasion he seems to have brought the matter before the Cabinet on his own initiative and rushed it through, on Boheman's confession, without proper investigation; and I cannot help suspecting that, if his colleagues had thought that it would create serious trouble with us, they would not have been so easily persuaded. As you say, "the Swedish Government do not like being thought badly of by His Majesty's Government"; and Boheman's distress, on learning that you would report this case to the Secretary of State, seems to show that, if strong action were taken in a case where Westmann was obviously in the wrong, there might be a chance of clipping his wings for the future, even if we got no immediate satisfaction.

Yours ever

(sd) L. Collier.

5

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 913

7 MAR 1941

37

Registry Number } N 913/378/42)

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).

No. 31 (78/2/41).

Dated 31st Jan. 1941.

Received in Registry } 7th Mar. 1941

N: Sweden.

Speech by Mr. H. Nicolson to Anglo-Swedish Society on 28th January.

Refers to Stockholm telegram No.78 of 30th January (N 378/378/42). Transmits copy of memoradum dated 30th January on press comment.
(Copy Ministry of Information).

Last Paper.

N872

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dec 1973
(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Y496 11/9/41.

Next Paper.

N961

(Minutes.)

A. N. B. Rumbold.
12/3.

This matter is now dead.

E. O. Coote.
12/3.

The "Svenska Dagbad" correspondent ~~was~~ is M. Bolander, who is not popular here; but, as will be seen from N- in addition, his editor seems to have more responsible for the misrepresentation of Mr. Nicolson's speech than he was.

Liaison Dept.

L. C.
March 13th.

20463 12/39 F.O.P.

N

Advance Copy
(Orig. via Moscow 6 Feb.) 38

(81 6/2/41)

Minister Stockholm

the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Legation,
Stockholm

N 913
7 MAR 1941

31st January 40

Stockholm telegram No. 78 of January 30th, 1941. N

Memorandum.

Stockholm January 30th, 1941.

Swedish press comment on Mr. Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society on 26th January, 1941.

A copy of this despatch is being sent to the Ministry of Information.

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society in London on the 28th January, 1941.

1. All Stockholm morning papers of the 29th January give full reports.

2. The only comment coming from London is in:

(1) "Dagens Nyheter", whose correspondent adds:

> "After Mr. Nicolson's speech, the Press Attaché Hammarling gave an account of Sweden's actual (faktiska) economic and political situation which may to some extent have helped to correct Mr. Nicolson's views on the subject."

(2) "Svenska Dagbladet", whose correspondent introduces his account by calling the speech "a truly black picture of national unity ~~and freedom of national unity and~~ and freedom of expression in Sweden".

3. Comment by the editors is found in :

(1) "Svenska Dagbladet", which in a caption calls Mr. Nicolson's "black picture" "misleading",

(2) "Social Demokraten", which under the caption "English allusions to cleavage in Sweden" states that many of Mr. Nicolson's views can hardly pass without contradiction in the Swedish press, and

(3) "Aftonbladet", which in its leading article resents Mr. Nicolson's compliments coupled as they are with statements, based on wholly incorrect information, which are entirely misleading and tend to raise doubts as to Sweden's neutrality.

4. Two newspapers of the 30th January devote editorials to the speech.

"Svenska Dagbladet" refuses to accept Mr. Nicolson's description of Sweden's internal situation. Sweden's self-confidence is not being undermined nor is her national unity being disintegrated by foreign influences. She is more united than ever in her determination to defend her freedom and independence. As to methods there may be divergent views just as there are in the case of England today to an even greater extent, though no one imagines that England's self-confidence and unity are thereby jeopardised. Mr. Nicolson was unduly influenced by the sardonic pessimism which characterizes a certain newspaper in a Swedish coastal town almost facing England. "Svenska Dagbladet" is surprised that there should be no news of any protest by the Swedish Legation. Indeed the Swedish Minister's presence at the luncheon gave the proceedings an authoritative stamp. Further it might have been expected that Monsieur Hammarling's address would have corrected some of the speaker's statements but nothing

of/

of what he said was reproduced by Reuters who distributed Mr. Nicolson's speech in full.

"Dagens Nyheter" objects to speculation as to Sweden's rôle "after the peace" even by a friend. Sweden is fully occupied with the task of defending her peace, her freedom and her dignity. In this task she is more united than ever. Presumably Mr. Nicolson gets his evidence as to Sweden's disintegration either from "Ny Dag" or from some Nazi rag. If not, it must be from the ever dwindling number of the Government's habitual critics, the very existence of whom however is a proof that, contrary to what Mr. Nicolson believes, the country enjoys freedom of expression to a considerable extent. London should be able to appreciate the intrinsic value of such sources of information.

5. "Daily Herald"'s demands for a statement on war aims more direct and more authoritative than Mr. Nicolson's <u>obiter dicta</u> are quoted by "Allehanda" of the 29th and by the morning papers of the 30th January.

British Legation,
Stockholm.

30th January, 1941.

N913/378/42 N

41

No. 31
(78/2/41)

HIS Majesty's Minister at Stockholm

presents his compliments to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Legation,
Stockholm

31st January, 19 40.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Stockholm telegram No. 78 of January 30th, 1941.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Memorandum. Stockholm January 30th, 1941.	Swedish press comment on Mr. Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society on 28th January, 1941.

A copy of this despatch is being sent to the Ministry of Information.

3479 18315 (4)

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British Legation,
Stockholm.

30th January, 1941.

6

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 961

8 MAR 1941

444

Registry Number } N 961/378/42.

FROM Communicated by Mr. Colville (No.10. Downing Street).

No.

Dated

Received in Registry } 8th Mar.1941.

N: Sweden.

Message of good wishes to Mr. Churchill.
Telegram from "Nordstrand Nordisk Tonefilm".

Last Paper.

N913

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Stockholm Chancery. March 14

(Minutes.)

Draft to Stockholm Chancery submitted
A. H. B. Schofield
8/3

I suppose it is all right, sending this by bag; but there is no little likelihood of an aeroplane going to Stockholm for a month or six weeks.+

No one in this Min. of Inf. seems to know anything about Nordisk Tonefilm.

E V Cooke.
11/3

+ It will not greatly incite to telegraph a airgram.

L. C.
March 11th.

Sec 13/3
(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Ltr 19/4

Next Paper.

N1058

Ldn. C. 1027. (1939—1,000,000) Ldn.

CABLEGRAM VIA NORTHERN

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH CO.
(LIMITED) OF DENMARK.

RECD:
1941 FEB 26 9 25

BY:

Direct, speedy and reliable connection with CHINA, HONGKONG, JAPAN, MACAO, MANILA, U.S.S.R., FINLAND, LATVIA, ESTONIA, LITHUANIA, POLAND, SWEDEN, DENMARK, FAROE ISLANDS, ICELAND, and GREENLAND.

N 961

8 MAR 1941

N 45

169

N 12

STOCKHOLM

XKM 65329 26 25 2400

N C //

PARLIAMENT ST. B.O. S.W.1
26 FE 41

PASSED BY CENSOR No. T21

- THE HONOURABLE MR WINSTON CHURCHILL

10 DOWNINGSTR LONDON

F.O 43
(not tach'd)

- SWEDISH JOURNALIST AND MOVIE PUBLICITY MANAGER WISHES YOU AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE BEST OF LUCK - NORDSTRAND NORDISK TONEFILM

RECEIVED AT F.O.
-7 MAR 1941
FROM No. 10

In order to avoid delay, please telephone or hand your cablegrams direct to our Office, 5, St. Helen's Place, E.C.3 (Telephone London Wall 3636, Telex London Wall 5511) or ask us to collect them. For messengers, enquiries, etc., Cablegrams marked "VIA NORTHERN" will also be accepted by any Postal Telegraph Office.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 961/378/42

A.H.B.S.
Draft.
Chancery

Stockholm

E.D.C.
11/3

13a

Foreign Office 46

OUT FILE March 1941

Dear Chancery,

The Nordstrand Nordisk Tonefilm Company, who sent the enclosed telegram of good wishes to the Prime Minister, ~~is~~ are unknown to us; but, ~~unless~~ if you see ~~any~~ no objection, ~~will you~~ please send them a suitable message of thanks and appreciation.

Yours ever

Northern Department.

Yours Ever.
(sd) L Collier. L.I.C.
March 11th.

47

OUT FILE FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

14th March, 1941.

(N 961/378/42)

Dear Chancery,

The Nordstrand Nordisk Tonefilm Company, who sent the enclosed telegram of good wishes to the Prime Minister, are unknown to us; but, if you see no objection, please send them a suitable message of thanks and appreciation.

Yours ever

E W L Collier

(for Northern Department)

The Chancery,
British Legation,
Stockholm.

7

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1058

18 MAR 1941

48

Registry Number N 1058/378/42.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Mallet (Stockholm)

No. 12 Saving.

Dated 14th Mar.1941.

Received in Registry 18th Mar.1941.

N: Sweden.

Anglo-Swedish Relations.

Refers to Foreign Office circular telegram No. 29 of 6th March (W /G). Asks for Foreign Office guidance on explanations to be given to the Swedes on (a) British failure to prevent German infiltration into Roumania and Bulgaria (b) British ability to help Greece (c) British intentions for offensive operations on the continent since the defeat of the German military machine is deemed essential to a British victory.

Last Paper.

N961

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

As regards the second point in this telegram, I do not see how we can either reveal to the Swedes our plans for the future or give them a guarantee that in certain circumstances we will help them against the Russians. We could and would have helped them against the Russians if they had helped us at the time of the Russo-Finnish war; but they chose to do nothing then, and they can[illegible] expect us to enter into commitments towards people who have done nothing for us. inconvenient

The first point, however, is one on which I feel we could, and ought to take action. As has been reported elsewhere, the Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs has urged that nothing would so stiffen the Swedish attitude towards German demands as public knowledge of the fact that [redacted] the Germans now have their hands full at the other end of Europe. (Mr. Mallet's own estimate of Swedish psychology was much the same, when he reported at the time of the Russo-Finnish war that the Swedes were always saying that if only the Germans would go into Holland and Belgium and be occupied there, they, for their part, would at once alter their attitude towards intervention in that struggle.) M. Lie emphasised that it must be the Swedish public and not the Swedish Government to whom the news of [redacted] Balkan developments should be given, since Swedish public opinion was much more in favour of a strong attitude towards German demands than the Swedish Government themselves and would always form the main lever for keeping the Government straight.

D.U.S. 21/3

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Yes 10/9/41

[redacted]

Next Paper.

N 1126.

Southern Dept.
Liaison Dept. Signed
1951 7/39 F.O.P.

The point raised

L. Collier
18th March, 1941.

re Collier — § 2 of
this minute is very
really little on
another paper.

O.E. Sargent

I annex a draft
reply on the
other point.

L.C.
March 20th.

Southern Dept.

On Sir O. Sargent's instructions,
Mr. Collier's draft has now been
combined with a Southern
Dept. draft. Mr. Collier agrees
that the amended draft should be
made Northern / Greece.

R.U. Bowker

22/3.

L.C.
March 22nd.

N 1058
18 MAR 1941

N 50

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

Telegram (en clair) from Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm)
14th March 1941.

D. BY BAG 14th March 1941.
R. 3.10 p.m. 17th March 1941.

No. 12 (Saving)

///////

W 2718/4
W.T.G.

Your circular telegram No. 29 of March 6th.

One point which has caused concern here is our failure to take any effective steps to prevent German infiltration into Roumania and subsequently into Bulgaria. The German press, which receives wide distribution here, has recently contained photographs of the pontoon bridge built by the Germans across the Danube, with detailed accounts of this "feat of engineering". Although it is recognised that we were unable to take military action to prevent this development, as we are not at war with either Roumania or Bulgaria, it is felt that so long as our counteraction in such cases is limited to formal protests by the diplomatic channel, the mere threat of German military action will suffice to cause a small country to capitulate. It is consequently wondered whether, having held our hand for so long in the Balkans we shall be willing or able to assist Greece in her extremity.

I should also be grateful for guidance on another point which is always cropping up in conversation with Swedes. The Swedes recognize our successes in the air and at sea, but they say that we cannot win the war without defeating the German military machine, and they ask how we propose to do this. Do we intend to take the offensive once more on the Continent? If we reply that time is on our side and that the effects of our blockade of Germany, of our counter-attacks by air and of our resistance to German attempts at invasion will ultimately bring about the collapse of Germany from within, they reply that it is exactly of this development that they are most afraid, since it would presumably entail the spread of Communism throughout Central Europe and provide the Russians with an opportunity for obtaining control of the Baltic. It is asked whether, in this event, we would be prepared to help the Swedes to defend their interests.

MAR 18 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

8

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 1126
20 MAR 1941
51

Registry Number } N 1126/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) to Secretary of State (extract)

Dated 10th Mar. 1941.

Received in Registry } 20th Mar.1941

N : Sweden.

Anglo-Swedish relations.

Reports that sympathy of most Swedes is with Britain, although there is a good deal of defeatism among Court circles and business men, and Swedish press is full of encouraging reports from England and America while deploring the situation in Norway. Suggests that requests for essential shipments from overseas to Sweden should be agreed to, but the Swedes should be warned that if such shipments are misused or the enemy intercepts then, the British blockade against Sweden will be tightened.

Last Paper.

N 1058

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copies to Mr Duff Cooper M.O.I.
Mr Dalton M.E.W.
with 54 S. comps.
Mar 27

(Minutes.)

Mr Duff-Cooper
Copies to M. of I.,
& Dr Dalton, M.E.W, with the comps. of the S. of S.,
informing each.
A. M. 13. Denaffield
23.3.

Private Secretary. Excellent.
Lm 28.3
I mean on all sides that the Stockholm
Chancery worked very well under Mr
Montagu-Pollock.
L - Collier
March 24th

D'Bangel March 25

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Ind 12/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1144

2c

Enter. 96r 52

Extract from Letter from Mr. Mallet, Stockholm, to the Secretary of State, 10th March, 1941.

N 1126
20 MAR 1941

We are all of us very glad to feel that you are watching our efforts here with so sympathetic and understanding an eye, and your letter will act as a stimulus to us all. I should like you to know that I have a really firstrate staff to help me, headed by Montagu-Pollock as my highly efficient head of the Chancery. One of our main worries has been, as you realise, the infrequency of the air service. Your letter encourages me to hope that this problem is on the way to being solved. If so, we shall hope to be able to send a good deal of more up-to-date intelligence to the various departments at home, and incidentally evacuate many stranded British subjects who would be useful in England now.

I am quite certain that the sympathy of all really decent Swedes is on our side, but there is a good deal of defeatism in Court circles and among business men who would like a patched-up peace. We do what we can to counteract this by propaganda, but one good victory in Africa or elsewhere is a far greater tonic than any dope we can provide locally. Swedish morale is rather mercurial, and the uncertainty surrounding present events in the Balkans is now having a somewhat depressing effect. We therefore look forward to seeing soon the results of your journey to Cairo.

On the whole, however, it is surprising to me that after being cut off from the West for eleven months the spirit of independence is still so strong here. The Swedish press is full of encouraging reports from England and America and the leading articles are remarkably outspoken, particularly in their detestation of the Quisling régime in Norway. As I see it, our policy here should be to encourage the Swedish will for self-defence by armed neutrality. To do this effectively it is important to continue and even somewhat to extend our present arrangements for allowing occasional shipments of oil to pass through the blockade. Without oil the Swedish navy and air force cannot carry out properly the training and patrolling, which is essential if morale among the armed forces is to be maintained. I believe that occasional admonitions to the Swedish Government against submitting to excessive German demands will only carry weight with the Swedish Government as long as they believe that a sympathetic attitude prevails in London towards their difficulties. It seems therefore wiser to let them know that moderate requests for essential shipments from overseas will be agreed to, but that any sign that Sweden is misusing such shipments, or that the enemy is intercepting them, will at once bring about a tightening up of our blockade against Sweden. The alternative policy of only agreeing to allow small driblets to reach Sweden after months of haggling does much less to encourage the Swedish Government to resist German pressure: it tends rather to create a feeling that even the great Democracies don't really care what happens to Sweden, so why not follow the line of least resistance and pay lip-service to Hitler's "new order"?

But the government did take some of these steps

L-G March 24th

9

N

53

1941

SWEDEN

N 1144

21 MAR 1941

N 1144/378/42

Registry Number

FROM (Ministry of Information) to Mr. Collier.

No. FP 2066/10

Dated 19th March. 1941.

Received in Registry 21st March. 1941

N: Sweden.

Press Attaché to British Legation in Stockholm.

Transmits translation of an article in "Dagens Eko" of 28th February stressing the important part played by Mr. Tennant in promoting Anglo-Swedish relations, and urging that he should impress upon the people of England that Sweden is not delivering submarines or submarine material to Germany.

Last Paper.

N1126

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) nd 29/3.

(Index.) N 1144 1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N/221

(*Minutes.*)

That Sweden is supplying the material out of which German submarines are being made is of course quite passed over in this argument of "righteous indignation" – but it is gratifying to see how well Mr Leeman is thought of.

C. N. B. Bonfield
23/3

Library Dept.

M.L.C. 26.3

It would be interesting to know what are the politics of "Dagens Eko". (I don't think it is an important paper).

L. C.
March 28th.

Mr. Kenney tells me that "Dagens Eko" is a paper of very little importance.

I think I have now seen it stated that it is pro-German. 27/3

E. O. Coote.

20817 F.O.P.

Yes. the intention of the article is doubtless sarcastic.

L. C.
March 28th.

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.

Telegrams :—
" MIN[redacted]ORM, LONDON."

Any further communication should be addressed to :—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted :—

FP.2066/10

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET, 54
LONDON, W.C.1.

19th March, 1941.

With Mr. Rowland Kenney's

Compliments.

(Article in DAGENS EKO ~~28/2/41~~)

N 1144
21 MAR 1941

Laurence Collier, Esq., C.M.G.
Northern Department,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

Article in Dagens Eko No. 49 of February 28th, 1941.

TRANSLATION

55

MR. TENNANT.

The Third Secretary and Press Attaché to the British Legation has been reprimanded in several newspapers because he advertises his name in the rather harmless propaganda publication "Nyheter från Storbritannien". He has been accused of breaking the spirit of the Swedish Press Freedom Law. That is however wrong. The Press Freedom Law is in fact completely without meaning, and certainly has no spirit. If anyone is to be reproached, it is not Mr. Tennant.

The reason why Mr. Tennant has had the honour of having his name used by this publication and of providing material for it, is not therefore that he is the actual responsible publisher of "Nyheter från Storbritannien", which - according to information from the printers of Vestmanlands Läns Tidning - at present has a circulation of 135,000 copies.

No, as long as the Swedish Government considers it to be in order that our country shall constitute an open battleground for the Anglo-German propaganda war, Mr. Tennant has every right to issue any newspapers and periodicals he may please . As to the fitness of our hospitality being misused in this way, that is a subject open to discussion, but it is a matter which our Foreign Office and the British Legation must decide between them. It is for very different reasons that I am doing Mr. Tennant the honour previously bestowed on Hindenburg and Sandler. From what I have heard and seen of Mr. Tennant, I must draw the conclusion that he is not only a skilful and ruthless propaganda chief but also a particularly amiable man characterised by a sense of humour and a feeling of fair play. I have still fresh in my mind his treatment of Dagens Eko's insinuation regarding the reasons for the sudden death of the former British Minister at Washington, which testified to these qualities. Mr. Tennant quoted us in his "Daily Review of the Press" (which from now on we expect to receive direct - it saves a lot of trouble!) and served up the quotation with - if I am not mistaken - the words: "As a little relaxation from all the serious news we quote....". This testifies undeniably both to humour and to a sense of fair play.

It/

56

It is therefore with a certain amount of confidence that I now address myself to Mr. Tennant with what I have on my heart. For a long time now I have realised that our representatives in London have not been capable of bearing aloft Sweden's colours with the honour and strength demanded by the times. M. Prytz' applause of the more amusing than accurate speech by Mr. Nicolson to the Anglo-Swedish Society in London some weeks ago confirms this assertion, just as M. Hammarling's clumsy behaviour on the same occasion. When I now read in Dagens Nyheter that not only an odd journalist here and there but also "the mass of the people" in England believe that Sweden delivers war material to Germany, then I cannot help deviating from my otherwise calm habits and growing somewhat irate. What in heavens name are MM. Prytz and Hammarling doing in London since they have passively allowed such an idea of our neutrality to spread uncontradicted among the English? The assertion that Sweden supplies Britains enemy with war material becomes all the more grave when, as in Dagens Nyheter, it is connected with Germany's high speed submarine production. As the matter is presented by Dagens Nyheter's London correspondent we are compelled to think that the English really believe that we are helping Hitler to build submarines! The whole thing would be ludicrous if I did not know that the English really think this. Does not England understand that Sweden is working feverishly so as to be armed to the teeth if and when we are threatened, by any power whatsoever? Is it not realised in London that we need all the submarines and all the war material that we can produce? If not, then Mr. Tennant ought to be able to tell his compatriots the truth.

This is an important task which Mr. Tennant as Press Attaché can fulfil - and surely he is not only a propagandist? In his capacity of Press Attaché and friend of Sweden - for that he is - he should be very keen to see that all the English understand that rumours of Sweden delivering submarines or submarine material to Germany are without a shade of truth.

Whatever the result of the war, it is of great importance for both Sweden and England that relations between the two peoples should not be disturbed by the nonsensical chatter of untruthful gossippers. Since the Swedish Press Attaché in London cannot impress this on the English people, perhaps his British colleague in Sweden can do so. All we ask is fair play, Mr. Tennant!

- - -

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N 1221 / G

25 March 1941

57

N 1221/ ~~1221/G.~~
378/42.

F.O. minute.

Dated March 22nd.

Received March 25th.

Anglo-Swedish relations.

Draft tel. to Stockholm referring to Stockholm tel. 12 Saving (N 1058/378/42) regarding Swedish need of reassurance as regards British assistance to Greece. Official circles may be told that British troops are landing in Greece. Sweden cannot be given guarantee of help against Germany.

Last Paper.

—

(Minutes.)

Southern Dept- to see.
R.U.3.
31/3.

A.D.M.I.3. Dennefield
26/3.

K.G. Gurney
27/3.

L
March 27th

References.

N 1058/378/42. - with Naval Dept.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. to Stockholm 143,
22/3.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
RH 1/4	A

Next Paper.

22107 1'41 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. ~~R 2506/G~~ N1221/1221/G.

2.45 PM 22 3 58

R.J.B.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

March 1941.

Despatched M.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,
Stockholm.

IMMEDIATE N1058/378/42

Telegram.

No. 143

Cypher INDIV

Your telegram No. 12 Saving of 14th March: Swedish need of reassurance as regards our assistance to Greece.

2. As regards paragraph No. 1, you may let it be discreetly known among official circles that British troops are landing in Greece in considerable numbers. For your own information various reasons make it imperative that no official announcement of the arrival of these troops should be made.

Departmental No. 2.

Copies for Secretary's Dept.

for your information

3. As regards paragraph No. 2, I do not see how we can either reveal to the Swedes our plans for the future or give them a guarantee that in certain circumstances we will help them against the Russians. We might have done that if theyhad helped us at the time of the Russo-Finnish war; but they can hardly expect us to enter into inconvenient commitments towards

people/

ROOM 461 P.M. MAR 22 1941 FOREIGN OFFICE

people who have done nothing for us.'
Above is from an inspection
OS
Such 422

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(N /G) DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

Cypher telegram to Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).

Foreign Office. 22nd March, 1941. 2.45 p.m.

No. 143.

hhh

IMMEDIATE.

Your telegram No. 12 Saving [of 14th March: Swedish need of reassurance as regards our assistance to Greece].

2. As regards paragraph No. 1, you may let it be discreetly known among official circles that British troops are landing in Greece in considerable numbers. For your own information various reasons make it imperative that no official announcement of the arrival of these troops should be made.

3. As regards paragraph No. 2, I do not see how we can either reveal to the Swedes our plans for the future or give them a guarantee that in certain circumstances we will help them against the Russians. We might have done that if they had helped us at the time of the Russo-Finnish war; but they can hardly expect us to enter into inconvenient commitments towards people who have done nothing for us.

Above is for your own information.

4

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.1265 / G

28 MAR 1941

X

60

N. 1265 / ~~1037~~ 378/42 G

From: Col. Hollis, W.C.O.

Date: 26.3.41.

Recd: 28.3.41.

Possibility of air support for Sweden.

Ref. T.O. letter N. 1037/325/G of 21/3.

Chief of Air Staff states that there have been negotiations for training Swedish air personnel which have not progressed very far. As regards giving Sweden direct help with fighter aircraft this wd. be impossible and no such undertaking cd. therefore be given to the Swedes.

Last Paper.

N. 1037/201/56

References.

N. 1037 4

(Minutes.)

Qy Draft tel to Stockholm in this effect with ref to Stockholm tel No 149?

A. M. B. Cornfield
29/3.

Now see Stockholm telegram no. 183 of March 29th (N 1285/G-) referring to tel. no. 149, and (a) stating that Swedes who are among our most outright supporters are now saying we are being unnecessarily harsh to Sweden, and (b) suggesting that we should send a "friendly message", such as a promise of assistance in the form of aircraft.

I submit dft tel. to Stockholm

Room 47 K.T. Gurney
31/3

I suppose we should write to the M.E.W. and Admiralty about the oil suggestion.

But please see No. 24/2, "Post", below.

L. Collier
31st March, 1941.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

To Stockholm No. 170, 9 1/4

To: Admty / M.E.W — 7/4

(Action completed.)

RH 8/4

(Index.)

A

[Seen by Sir O. Sargent]

dfts to Admiralty and M.E.W herewith

K.T.Gurney
4/4

Next Paper.

N. 1285/G 378/42

L.C. April 5th

2/3

Enter Green

OFFICES OF THE WAR CABINET
AND OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE,
GREAT GEORGE STREET,
S.W.1.

61

-SECRET-

26th March, 1941.

N.1265/G

28 MAR 1941

Dear Sargent

Thank you for your letter No. N.1037/325/G of the 21st March about air support to Sweden if she were attacked by Germany.

2. I consulted the Chief of the Air Staff, who says that there have been negotiations with the Swedes for training Swedish air personnel which have, unfortunately, not progressed very far.

3. I am sure you will appreciate that geographical difficulties alone would preclude us from giving Sweden direct help with fighter aircraft if she were attacked, and the Chief of the Air Staff much regretted that he was unable to subscribe to an undertaking to help Sweden by an offer of air support.

Yours sincerely

L. Storrs

Sir Orme Sargent, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Foreign Office.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No;

N 1265/325/G

L.C.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,

STOCKHOLM.

Telegram.

No. ..170

(Cypher) Indir

(Distribution B)

recd 2.30 p.m. 1/4/41

4.20 pm 1/4/41

March, 1941.

62

Despatched *M.*

SECRET.

Your telegrams Nos. 149 [of March 15th] and 183 [of March 29th: assistance for Sweden].

I fear that geographical difficulties alone would preclude direct help with fighter aircraft. Air Ministry have had negotiations with Swedish authorities for training Swedish air personnel; but these have not progressed very far.

Suggestion as regards oil is under consideration.

Orm 12 March 31

N.1265/325/G.

[Cypher] DISTRIBUTION B.

To: SWEDEN.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No.170 D. 4.20 p.m. 1st April,1941.
1st April, 1941.

. . . . . .

SECRET.

Your telegrams Nos.149 [of March 15th] and 185 [of March 29th: Assistance for Sweden].

I fear that geographical difficulties alone would preclude direct help with fighter aircraft. Air Ministry have had negotiations with Swedish authorities for training Swedish air personnel; but these have not progressed very far.

Suggestion as regards oil is under consideration.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N1265/G

F.O
7th April 64
1941

Draft. K.G.

(1) Admiralty
(under cover to Lt. Cdr. the Viscount Dunrotch.
(2) M.E.W
(under cover to Mr Sporborg)

(3) Stockholm tel 149 (N 1037/G)
(4) Stockholm tel no. 183 (N 1285/G)
(5) Tel. to Stockholm no. 170 (N 1265/G)

Sir,

I am directed, etc, to transmit to you, herewith, for the information of (1) the Lords Comm. of the Admiralty (2) the Minister of P.W. a copy/ies of telegraphic correspondence exchanged by ~~between this Department and~~ correspondence with His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm regarding the possibility of giving assistance to Sweden in the form of ~~aircraft~~ fighter aircraft in the event of war between that country and Germany.

2. It will be observed that, in his telegram no. 183 of March 29th last, Mr Mallet suggests that

as a gesture of good-will, H.M. Govt should facilitate the acquisition by the Swedish navy of further supplies of oil. Mr ~~Winston~~ Winston Churchill will be glad to receive ~~the~~ ~~observations of~~ {Their Lordships' / ~~The Minister~~ Mr Dalton's} observations on this ~~proposal~~ suggestion.

4 A similar letter is being addressed to the Ministry of Economic Warfare Admiralty.

V.C.
April 5th
(Sgd) Laurence Collier.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

N 1265/325/G

66

S.W.1.

7th April, 1941.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Winston Churchill to transmit to you, herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a copy of telegraphic correspondence with His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm regarding the possibility of giving assistance to Sweden in the form of fighter aircraft in the event of war between that country and Germany.

2. It will be observed that, in his telegram No. 183 of the 29th March last, Mr. Mallet suggests that as a gesture of goodwill, His Majesty's Government should facilitate the acquisition by the Swedish navy of further supplies of oil. Mr. Churchill will be glad to receive Their Lordships' observations on this suggestion.

3. A similar letter is being addressed to the Ministry of Economic Warfare.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(sgd) Laurence Collier.

The Secretary
of the Admiralty.

67

N 1265/325/G

S.W.1.

7th April, 1941.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Winston Churchill to transmit to you, herewith, for the information of the Minister for Economic Warfare a copy of telegraphic correspondence with His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm regarding the possibility of giving assistance to Sweden in the form of fighter aircraft in the event of war between that country and Germany.

2. It will be observed that, in his telegram No. 183 of the 29th March last, Mr. Mallet suggests that as a gesture of goodwill, His Majesty's Government should facilitate the acquisition by the Swedish navy of further supplies of oil. Mr. Churchill will be glad to receive Mr. Dalton's observations on this suggestion.

3. A similar letter is being addressed to the Admiralty.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(sgd) Lawrence Collier.

The Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Warfare.

5

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.1285 / G

30 MAR 1941

X 68

N. 1285/~~1037~~/G
378/42

From: Dr. Dalton, Stockholm.

No: 183

Date: 29.3.41.

Recd: 30.3.41.

Anglo-Swedish relations

Ref. Stockholm tel. 149 (N. 1037/G).

Even some of most pro-British elements are now saying that Britain is being unnecessarily harsh towards Sweden. It is suggested that we might facilitate further oil for Navy. Believes suggestion in Stockholm tel. 149 wd. be most stimulating.

Last Paper.

N. 1265/378/42

References.

N. 1037/201/56
N. 1265/378/42

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

See minutes on N 1265/G. and action thereon.

V. T. Gurney
31/3

L. Collier
March 31st.

[seen by Sir O. Sargent]

(Action completed.)

RH
8/4

(~~Index.~~)

N

Next Paper.

N. 1291/G 13/42

20009 10/39 F.O.P.

N.1285 / G N.

30 MAR 1941

69

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWEDEN.

Decypher. Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).
29th March, 1941.

D. 9.55 p.m. 29th March, 1941.

R. 3.10 a.m. 30th March, 1941.

No. 183.

XXXXXXX

IMPORTANT.

My telegram No. 149. N 1037/G

I hear that even some of our most outright supporters, who as a rule severely criticised the Swedish Government, are now saying that His Majesty's Government are unnecessarily harsh towards Sweden and that now is the time, while Sweden is under the influence of events in Yugoslavia, to give encouragement to the Swedish Government rather than to continue to chide them.

One useful suggestion is that we ought to facilitate further oil for the navy.

I feel that it would be a mistake to let the favourable moments go by and I believe that the suggestion in my telegram No. 149 would be most stimulating. There are no signs at present of further German demands nor of any weakening in Swedish determination. A friendly message of the nature suggested just now would, however, be useful.

?

13

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1345

3 APR 1941

70

Registry Number } N 1345/378/42

FROM Mr. Kenney (Ministry of Information)

No. FP 2066/5

Dated 1st Apr. 1941.

Received in Registry 3rd Apr. 1941.

N: Sweden

Anglo-Swedish relations

Transmits copy of a letter dated 28th January from Mr. Tennant, Press Attaché to His Majesty's Legation in Stockholm, enclosing an analysis of news space in Swedish papers between 15th December and 28th December 1940, showing the swing over in favour of the British which had become noticeable in the last two months.

Last Paper.

N 1285

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

It looks a very good position for us — on paper.

Liaison Dept. Mr. L. 7.4

A. M. B. Donaldson 4/4

K. G. Grimsey 4/4

L. C. April 4th.

DCO 8/4

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

LSB 1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1382

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.

Telegrams :—
[redacted]NIFORM, LONDON."

Any further communication should be addressed to :—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted :—

FP.2066/5

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET, 71
LONDON, W.C.1.

1st.April 1941.

With the compliments of
Mr.Rowland Kenney.

N 1345
3 APR 1941

COPY.

32/17/41.

72

FD.2066/5.

British Legation,
Stockholm.

28th.January 1941.

Dear Division,

I enclose a short analysis of news space in Swedish papers between 15th.December abd 28th.December ~~194~~ 1940. This is typical of the situation in general in the Swedish press since about November and is very characteristic of the swing over in our favour which has been noticeable in the last two months. I feel that this should be brought to the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ attention of the Foreign Office as it is highly significant. I will try to supply you with typical cross cuts of this kind at regular intervals, but the pressure of work on my staff is so great that I cannot keep a regular check.

Yours ever,

(signed) P.F.D.Tennant.

Press Attaché.

Foreign Division,
Ministry of Information,
London W.C.1.

	Reuters.	DNB.	Stefani	GT.	Corr. in London.	Corr. in Berlin.	Corr. in Rome	Corr. in Athens.
Svenska Dagbladet.	632.	201	110	25	380	335	82	---
Dagens Nyheter.	526.	153	93	13	277	157	30	93
Stockholms Tidningen.	498	222	97	34	136	211	74	23
Socialdemokraten.	534	143	63	22	34	257	5	---
Nya Dagligt Allehanda.	318	138	35	14	349	52	31	119
Aftonbladet.	340	109	35	20	253	236	40	35
Gtbg;s Hand.o.Sjöf.Tid.	256	64	92	17	335	---	51	33
GRAND TOTAL.	3104.	1030	525	145	1764	1248	313	303

The above figures represent the column inches of news, not pictures, during the period between Sunday, 15th.December, 1940 and Saturday, 28th.December 1940 inclusive.

Although the above figures are very exact, they do not give a completely true picture of the situation, for the following reasons:-

1.) Unfavourable reports from by Havas Vichy/and STB:
2.) Reports from Norway from Swedish correspondents are not included:

In the other hand a great amount of DNB's reports are concerned with small scandals and curiosities that have occurred in the United States, South America and Russia, and are therefore of little political value.

14

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 1382

5 APR 1941

74

Registry Number N 1382/378/42.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Mallet (Stockholm)

No. 195 Cypher.

Dated 3rd Apr. 1941.

Received in Registry 5th Apr. 1941.

N: Sweden.

Promotion of British Naval prestige in Sweden.

Germans are arranging shortly another spectacular tour for members of the Senior Naval Staff. Strongly advocates early counter-measure, and recommends invitation for Boldt Christmas, former Naval Attaché in London, to visit the United Kingdom as unofficial Naval observer to write for responsible Swedish journals. Requests early decision, in co-operation with Naval Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N1345

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft° Admlty (D.N.I) Apr. 8

8) M of I (Ol Kennedy) (on N1861) Hbg 5/4

(*Minutes.*)

This seems an excellent idea but the Admiralty are the most concerned and I suppose we should ask for their observations first. It was reported to us that the Swedish Govt were thinking of asking permission to send an observer of A.R.P. to this country*. If they do so this might also help to counteract the effects of Swedish visit to Germany.

Admiralty D.N.I. for obs.
Liaison Dept.
M.L.S. 5.4

A. D. B. Denniston.
5/4

* This project has been abandoned by the Swedes, owing to transport difficulties. K.J.C. 25/4

I think we should recommend this to the admty. Draft annexed.

L. Collier
April 6th.

Now please see the Prime Minister's minute on the attached copy of the telegram.

L. Collier
April 7th.

[seen by Sir O. Sargent, who wishes us to deal orally with the D.N.I's office.]

over

(*Action completed.*) (*Index.*)

HG 14/7 Ydd 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N1518

Commander Dunwich informed me this evening that he had discussed this matter with Mr. Coote this afternoon. As there is some difficulty involved he could not give any decision without submitting the question to the D.N.I personally. He would however be glad to get it received immediate attention and would also like to receive a copy of the D.O. heirs as expressed in Mr. Collier's attached draft which I read to him.

A. K. B. Donfield
7/4

Then send off the draft; & bring up in a week.

L.C.
April 8th.

Qy. remind Lord Dunwich by telephone?

A. K. B. Donfield
15/4

I have spoken to Lord Dunwich, who will do what he can to expedite things. "The question is not having a very smooth passage in the Admty. One of the objections is that the leakage about the Illustrious having reached Alexandria is supposed to have been due to a neutral observer.

E.O. Coote.
16/4.

Bring up again in a week.

L.C.
April 16th.

I have spoken to Mr Walrowtte, who promises a reply soon.

Bring up again in a week. E.O. Coote
L 6/4.

L
April 28th.

76

[Cypher]. DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWEDEN.

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet.
No: 195.
3rd April, 1941.

D: 12.15 a.m. 3rd April, 1941.
R: 8.00 a.m. 4th April, 1941.

* * * * * * * * *

Naval Attaché learns that Germans are arranging very shortly another spectacular tour for certain members of the Senior Naval Staff. Last tour in September infected Senior Officers of Defence with strong feeling of admiration for and conviction of Germany's might and only recently have they begun to be convinced of our supremacy.

2. In times of crisis, Swedes are easily swayed by opinion of a few Senior Officers and Sweden has to face a major political [? decision]. On return of the Staff tour, the opinion of such biased officers might well influence Government's present attitude of firmness. In order to prevent undermining of the present state of Naval opinion which is on the whole favourable to us, I strongly advocate early counter-measures.

3. Presumably a visit of Swedish Staff to the United Kingdom if not prohibitive for security reasons would not be possible owing to lack of air transport. I would therefore recommend for consideration that Boldt Christmas, former Naval Attaché in London, should be invited to visit the United Kingdom as unofficial Naval observer to write for responsible Swedish journals.

If/

77

If this officer whose Anglophil connexions are known to the Admiralty Board could be given sea-going facilities to write convincingly about British Naval strength, I believe this would go far to counteract German move. He is well known as a Naval writer in Sweden and has already done good propaganda for our Navy in the Swedish press. It would probably be possible to get leave for this officer to proceed and in view of imminent German move I shall be grateful for an early decision.

Please communicate with Director of Naval Intelligence.

FO.

Let me see proposed answer

W

6.10.39

78

N

N 1382
5 APR 1941

[Cypher]. DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWEDEN.

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet.
No: 195.
3rd April, 1941.

D: 12.15 a.m. 3rd April, 1941.
R: 8.00 a.m. 4th April, 1941.

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Naval Attaché learns that Germans are arranging very shortly another spectacular tour for certain members of the Senior Naval Staff. Last tour in September infected Senior Officers of Defence with strong feeling of admiration for and conviction of Germany's might and only recently have they begun to be convinced of our supremacy.

2. In times of crisis, Swedes are easily swayed by opinion of a few Senior Officers and Sweden has to face a major political [? decision]. On return of the Staff tour, the opinion of such biased officers might well influence Government's present attitude of firmness. In order to prevent undermining of the present state of Naval opinion which is on the whole favourable to us, I strongly advocate early counter-measures.

APR. 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

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If/

N-1382

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Please communicate with Director of Naval Intelligence.

c c c c c c c

s s s s s s s

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 1382/378/42.

L.C.
Draft.
Admiralty.
(Under cover to the
D.N.I.)

8a
8th April, 1941.
8D

IMMEDIATE. OUT FILE

Sir,

I am etc. to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the LL. CC. of the Admiralty, a copy of a telegram from H.M. Minister at Stockholm, recommending that an invitation to visit this country, in order to write press articles on naval subjects, should be extended to Captain Boldt-Christmas, formerly Naval Attaché to the Swedish Legation in London.

2. Mr. Churchill considers that this suggestion is to be recommended on political grounds; and I am accordingly to express the hope that, if Their Lordships see no serious technical objection thereto, they will authorise him immediately to instruct Mr. Mallet to convey such an invitation to Captain Boldt-Christmas.

~~3. In view of Mr. Mallet's request for~~ an early decision, I am to express the hope that this matter will be treated as ~~urgent~~.

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

L.C.
April 8th.

N 1382/378/42.

OUT FILE 81

S.W.1.
8th April, 1941.

Immediate.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Winston Churchill to transmit to you herewith to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm, recommending that an invitation to visit this country, in order to write press articles on naval subjects, should be extended to Captain Boldt-Christmas, formerly Naval Attaché to the Swedish Legation in London.

2. Mr. Churchill considers that this suggestion is to be recommended on political grounds; and I am accordingly to express the hope that, if Their Lordships see no serious technical objection thereto, they will authorise him

immediately

The Secretary
of the Admiralty.

immediately to instruct Mr. Mallet to convey such an invitation to Captain Boldt-Christmas.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

15

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1518

11 APR 1941

83

Registry Number N 1518/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) to Mr. Collier.

No. 78/14/41.

Dated 21st Mar.1941.

Received in Registry 11th Apr.1941.

N:Sweden

Mr. Nicholson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society.

Refers to Mr. Collier's letter of 22nd February (N 644/378/42).

Has now ascertained that the misunderstanding was caused not by Vicklund's and Bolander's reports but by Reuter's, who sent a report containing the disparaging passage only. By some mistake a ban fell on the full Reuter's report which came through afterwards, and it was not until the whole text was published that the Swedes were aware of the context of the disparaging passage.

Last Paper.

N 1382

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mr Kenney 11/9. (from Mr Collier) A&H

(Minutes.)

Copy to Mr. Kenney (M. of I.)

Liaison dept.
M.L.C. 18.4

A. M. B. Schofield
12/4

I feel that, in justice to Mr Bolander, we should ask Mr Kenney to give him the gist of this letter orally, to show him that he is completely exonerated from blame in this particular incident. Mr Kenney will no doubt wish to clear up the question of the Reuter message before saying anything to Bolander.

V. T. Cumming
14/2

I annex a draft to Mr. Kenney.

L. C.
April 15th.

Dft 14/4 (Action completed.)

(Index.)

A&H 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1536

V

1c. Enter 84

78/14/41.

N 1518
11 APR 1941

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.

21st March, 1941.

Dear Collier,

Your letter N 644/378/42 of February 22nd about the press storm over Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo Swedish Society.

I have now ascertained that the "storm in a teacup" was caused not by Vicklund's and Bolander's reports but by Reuter's. Reuter's sent first of all a "flash" on Nicolson's speech which only contained the text of the disparaging passage. This was stopped by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs but too late, with the result that it got into the press. The ban then fell by some mistake on the full Reuter's report which came through afterwards, and it was not until we published the whole text that the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or the press were aware of the context of the disparaging passage or of the full text of the speech. The whole text of the speech, together with the last chapter of "Why Britain is at War", was later published by Hansson in "Natur och Kultur" and helped to allay misunderstandings.

The conclusion to be drawn is, I think, that the fault lay principally with Reuter's who sent an alarmist report in the first instance.

Yours ever

Victor Mallet

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
London.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.
N 1518/378/42

L.C.

Draft. R.

Mr. Kenney,

Ministry of
Information.

(From Mr. Collier)

Liaison Dept.
(a.a.)

15c

OUT FILE 85

April, 1941.

Dear Kenney,

I enclose a copy of Mallet's reply to my letter to him about the storm over Harold Nicolson's speech, of which I sent you a copy with my compliments on February 25th. You will see that, according to Mallet, the trouble was caused by Reuter's report and not by those from Viklund or Bolander.

This is very surprising if true; and, although the matter is now ancient history, I suppose it might be worth while to investigate what Reuter said, if only to make sure that they do not do this sort of thing again, and to be in a position to tell Viklund and Bolander, if you find that Reuter really did start the whole trouble, that we now regard them as completely exonerated.

L. C. April 15th.

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

FOREIGN OFFICE,

(N 1518/378/42). OUT FILE 86 S.W.1.

16th April, 1941.

Dear Kenney,

I enclose a copy of Mallet's reply to my letter to him about the storm over Harold Nicolson's speech, of which I sent you a copy with my compliments on 25th February. You will see that, according to Mallet, the trouble was caused by Reuter's report and not by those from Viklund or Bolander.

This is very surprising if true; and, although the matter is now ancient history, I suppose it might be worth while to investigate what Reuter said, if only to make sure that they do not do this sort of thing again, and to be in a position to tell Viklund and Bolander, if you find that Reuter really did start the whole trouble, that we now regard them as completely exonerated.

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER

R. Kenney, Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Piece ..... 29675 .....

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~~transferred to PRO Safe Room*~~

N1575/378/42

and closed until ..... 2017 .....

*delete as necessary

17

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 1594 87

15 APR 1941

Registry Number } N 1594/378/42

FROM Mr. Mallet Stockholm

No. 94 (30/5/41)

Date 26th Mar. 1941.

Received in Registry } 15th Apr. 1941.

N: Sweden

Attitude of the Swedish Press towards British progress in the war

Criticises statement in the Weekly Political Summary No. 70 of 5th February that "Swedish censorship prevented the truth about the war being known". Puts forward suggestions for ensuring that British cause is adequately presented a) vital importance of rapid communication between Stockholm and London by air b) frequent supplies of up-to-date literature and films c) lecture tours by distinguished visitors. Copies Political Intelligence Department and Ministry of Information.

Last Paper.

N1575

References.

N 1345/378/42
R 934/414/22

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mr Kenney, H.of S. (from Mr Collier) Apr.

Last Paper

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

N1674

(Minutes.) See within Mr Kenney's reply to Mr Collier of 20/4

Weekly Summary no 70 attached

This despatch clearly shows that the Swedish newspapers are free to voice their feelings - and that most of them are not merely objective, but biassed in our favour.

Mr Mallet voices our own views as to the need for air communications on a broader basis - much broader than the compromise now reached after a long struggle, whereby the single aircraft available will be larger than the one now in use, but still monopolised by one Ministry.

K.T. Gurney 20/4

This despatch, I fear, does not tell the whole truth. It is notorious that the censorship, under the control of the pro-German Minister of Justice, M. Westmann, is biassed in favour of Germany; & Mr. Mallet has admitted, in his letter to me in N. inaction, that it prevents the papers from publishing news from

from travelers about internal conditions in Germany. Moreover, it is not true that the censorship is directed almost entirely against the publication of articles or books considered insulting to the Heads of foreign States" Etc. On the contrary, there is a special provision against which the press has protested - for the suppression of anything "likely to cause difficulties with a foreign State"; and this has been acted upon in cases where no personalities were involved, and even where no German protests had been received. (see, for example, N - 872/378/42) - for instance, an article denouncing conditions in Norway that has been suppressed for no other reason than that it was feared that the Germans might possibly dislike it.

I agree, however, that the censorship has not succeeded in preventing much of the truth from being known; and to that extent the phrase in question should have been modified. That, however, is no credit to the censorship, or to the Swedish government, but is due to the fact that the press and public opinion are ahead of the latter.

As regards the use of the air service for propaganda, I am in entire agreement with Mr. Mallet; but it is only with the greatest difficulty that we have secured even one new aeroplane for the Stockholm service - and that is to be at the disposal of the M.E.W. I annex a draft to Mr. Kenney.

L.C. / April 21st.

League Dept.
MLC 28.4.
Draft 28/4

N 89

N 1594

15 APR 1941

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
26th March, 1941.

No. 94
(30/5/41)

Sir,

not entered here

In reading the Section on Scandinavia in the Weekly Political Summary No. 70 of the 5th February, which has just reached me, I find a reference to Mr. Harold Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society which includes the following words: "particularly his hint that the Swedish censorship prevented the truth about the war being known (which is notoriously the case)".

2. I confess that I find this statement both surprising and misleading. I read the Swedish press every day and from it I am able to derive an immense amount of information regarding the progress of the war together with the commentaries of correspondents all over the world. When I get my "Times" some weeks later I seldom find in it much news of importance that I have not already gathered from the Swedish press. I have never yet noticed any attempt by the Swedish censor to suppress British communiqués, and the speeches of prominent British and American statesmen are always reported fully, except for the occasional excision of epithets of a highly polemic nature applied to the Heads of foreign States, though for instance Mr. Churchill's reference to Mussolini as Italy's Quisling was reported in extenso. The Swedish Government and censorship are, I understand, particularly anxious to counteract German propaganda in this country. It is for this reason that they not only tolerate but at times even covertly encourage our propaganda. For example, I know that they approve of our

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

weekly/

weekly newspaper "Nyheter från Storbritannien", of which nearly 140,000 copies weekly are sent out. I know also that the importation of films from the United States of America is receiving official encouragement, as the American and British filmsare on their merits able to drive German films off the screen.

3. The censorship is directed almost entirely against publication of inflammatory articles or books which may be considered insulting to the Heads of foreign States or members of their Governments. This restriction prevents the publication in translation of a good deal of war propaganda literature, which by its very nature must express itself in the strongest terms regarding Hitler and his criminal associates. Swedish newspapers have recently apparently discovered a technique whereby they can tell their readers of the iniquities of the Nazi régime in the Occupied countries without transgressing the censorship rules. For instance, Dr. J.Wickman,the foreign political leader writer of "Dagens Nyheter" and one of Sweden's foremost journalists,has just published a collection of his leaders from early in 1940 up to the present time and it would be hard to find a more outspoken condemnation of National Socialism and Fascism,though he writes with such brilliant irony that his victims are unable to protest without making themselves ridiculous. In the last few weeks the Swedish press of many political complexions and from many different districts of the country has been publishing most outspoken articles on the Quisling régime in Norway. The technique is usually to fix upon Quisling and his brother traitors and to leave the reader to fill in between the lines what is felt against the German occupiers. The same system has been applied to Denmark. The press heartily abuses

Fritz

Fritz Clausen and his supporters, praises the King and the spirit of the Danish people, chides Monsieur Stauning when he makes a weak speech about the future of Denmark and by implication lets its readers realise the detestation felt for the Germans in Denmark. The theory is that there is no need to tell the Swedish people who started the war or who is responsible for its continuance, because all except the few who have sold themselves to the Nazis quite understand this already. The highly educated working class in Sweden does not really need to be stimulated by abusive adjectives such as appeal to the populace in less phlegmatic and more ignorant countries. "Social-Demokraten" has under its new editor, R.Lindström, since last summer adopted a colourless policy and avoided foreign political leading articles, with the result that the Swedish working class now more and more refuse to support their own organ and instead prefer to read the liberal and conservative press of Stockholm and Gothenburg. I do not therefore believe that such censorship as is exercised in Sweden effectively prevents the truth about the war from being known. I have however heard it said by Swedish officials who have returned from England/from the United States that the truth about Sweden is not fully realised abroad and that misconceptions which exist in London may possibly be due to neglect on my part in keeping His Majesty's Government informed of the true state of opinion here and ~~in~~ the manner in which it is expressed in the press. It is true that I have not thought it necessary to address very frequent despatches to your Department on this subject, because a daily stream of telegrams is sent off from here to the Ministry of Information giving a résumé of Swedish editorial opinion.

What

What however is perhaps not fully realised is that the actual news is presented in the Swedish press usually most fairly and often most favourably from our point of view. The predominance of Reuter material over all other agencies is consistent, a fact reported by my Press Attaché in a letter to the Ministry of Information 32/17/41 of January 28th and protested against violently in the Swedish Nazi press. The Germans have without avail made official protests against this predominance of Reuter material. Our recent victories in Africa have always appeared in big headlines on the front page. The recent passage of the Lease and Lend Bill by the United States Congress has been treated in a similar fashion. No attempt is made to exaggerate British difficulties at sea, nor are unduly depressing or untruthful accounts of the effect of air raids over the United Kingdom printed, although, inevitably, sensational headlines appear at times. If proof were needed of the pro-British nature of the Swedish press it can be found in the fact that the German Legation spends much of its time protesting against this to the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and that the troupe of German journalists who visited this country a few weeks ago have since been writing a series of articles in the German press complaining of the shocking license allowed to the Swedish press and of its blindness in still believing in an ultimate British victory. I enclose a translation of one of these articles, several of which have recently been brought to my attention by the Legation's Press Reading Bureau. Incidentally one of these articles complained that the Swedish wireless had during the last four months made use of nearly twice as many British as German news agency reports.

N1345/378/42

4. I am aware of a feeling among a group of our most outspoken supporters in Sweden, who look to Dr. Segerstedt as their leader, that the Swedish Government ought to encourage rather than restrain the public expression of hatred of the Nazis. A few of these people go so far as to say that Sweden ought even now to challenge the might of Germany and thereby save her own soul. This group of idealists do not, however, represent more than a small section of the public: they are our finest propagandists from the manner in which they point the moral issues of the war, but when they pass on to practical politics they often greatly outdistance the views of their readers. The average friendly Swede would like to see us win but he would prefer to watch on the sidelines: knight-errantry has little appeal. The Government therefore, in my opinion, interprets the public feeling accurately enough in attempting to curb any open expression of feeling likely to exacerbate relations with Germany. This does not mean that either the Government or the public contemplates bowing to German demands and allowing themselves to be "Balkanized". The sudden recall to the colours on March 14th of about 80,000 men and the reasons for this action seem to show that, on the contrary, the Swedish Government have now made up their minds that there are certain limits of acquiescence beyond which they do not intend to go. Their intention is still to avoid any provocation of Germany and the censorship will probably be tightened up accordingly, but this is not a matter to be wondered at when a country is in a state of semi-mobilization.

5. For the comparatively satisfactory tone of the Swedish press in recent months our military successes are of course mainly responsible, as was pointed out in my despatch No. 465 of December 31st last. It would be unwise to count on a continuation of the present optimistic tone if we were to suffer a series of setbacks in the spring, but I think we may still

R934/414/22

count/

count on any news favourable to our cause being adequately presented. It is therefore of absolutely firstrate importance that rapid and frequent communication between London and Stockholm should be established by air. I need not in this despatch go into detail on this subject, with which you are already familiar. I wish, however, to emphasize as strongly as possible that the best way to maintain in the minds of the Swedish Government and public confidence in our ultimate victory is to supply me frequently with up-to-date literature, newspapers, books and films such as I believe are available at the Ministry of Information but for which at present no means of conveyance exists. Ephemeral literature and photographs of this sort lose nearly all their propaganda value if they arrive after a three months' journey via Africa. An adequate air service might also make it possible for a few distinguished men to come to Sweden for short lecture tours or even simply to meet and talk with as many Swedes as possible in an informal way. I have in mind such names as those of the Honourable Harold Nicolson, M.P., Mr. Vernon Bartlett M.P., and Mr. J.B. Priestley. A visit by one or two important members of the Labour Party or Cooperative Movement to make personal contact with their Swedish friends would do much to steady opinion here, particularly if they could make a point of counteracting German "new order" propaganda by giving their ideas of the New Europe after Germany's defeat. Even apart from such visits the mere knowledge that Sweden was less cut off by air than at present would produce a heartening effect in Swedish Government circles, and it would be good policy to facilitate visits to the United Kingdom by occasional Swedish businessmen and journalists. There is a thirst for firsthand reports on the

state

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state of the British Isles, and the return here on leave of two members of the Swedish Legation in London had the most excellent results. These eyewitnesses were believed when people were inclined to doubt newspaper reports. I therefore repeat that if it is desired that the full truth about the war should be known and understood in Sweden a regular and adequate air service is a sine qua non.

6. I am sending copies of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office and to the Ministry of Information.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

Enclosure to Mr. Mallet's despatch No. 94 of 26th March,
Translation of an article in the "Flensburger Nachrichten"
of March 20th.

96

SWEDISH UNFRIENDLINESS.

We cannot say that the Swedish press has exactly pampered us with over-friendly reports. In reading the Swedish newspapers we have always felt a pleasant reaction when brought face to face with its cool objectivity. But even this duty, which is really a matter of course in a neutral country's journalism, seems in Sweden to be taken about as seriously as in another small neighbouring country of the Reich. One need only remember the bombing of the South Swedish town Malmö by English fighter planes and the obvious attempts of Swedish papers to lay the blame of this violation of neutrality on German airmen up to the moment of the official British admission in defiance of the clear opinion of experts.

Further, it is sufficient to mention the name of "Göteborgs Handels- och Sjöfartstidning" to characterise a press which has for years received at any rate its spiritual impulse from England herself or from the Anglophile circles in its own country.

Recently "Göteborgsposten", foremost among a number of other papers, has given characteristic examples of an unfriendly way of reporting and commenting. "Gigantic losses of German night bombers", so run the head-lines of a report which the paper publishes from its London correspondent, and which must certainly have earned the particular approbation of the British Ministry of Information. According to the opinion of the very neutral journalist and the published words of the neutral newspaper, "It is assumed in London that the German losses in the night of 15/16 March attained 5 to 7% of the attacking planes. This means that the total number of German fighters set in could be

destroyed/

destroyed in about three weeks. (!)" This childish estimate bears only too clearly the traces of Duff Cooper stupidity. Since it has often transpired that the London authorities even in their official reports have clearly and irrefutably made false statements - nay, more, that a very system has been made of falsehood, it might surely be in place to view pure "assumptions" of British authorities with a little more scepticism. But the manner of reporting, as revealed here, clearly shows the spiritual parentage of those who staff the Swedish editing offices.

- - -

Registry
No:
N 1594/378/42

L.C.

Draft.

Mr. Kenney,

Ministry of
Information.

(From Mr.Collier)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Liaison Dept-(a.a.)

case

and there is also notorious the fact of the White Book on German concentration camps, discussed in my letter to Mallet of March 18th of which I handed you a copy.

Liaison Dept.

24

OUT FILE

25th April, 1941.

98

Dear Kenney,

I expect you will have seen the copy of Mallet's despatch No. 94 of March 26th, about the attitude of the Swedish press, which has been sent to the Ministry of Information. The despatch does not, in my view, tell the whole truth about the Swedish censorship, ~~which is notoriously biased in favour of Germany~~. Mallet has himself admitted in a letter to me that the censorship prevents the publication of reports from travellers about ~~the~~ internal conditions in Germany; and ~~it is also clear from~~ his earlier despatches show that it is not true that ~~the censorship~~ it "is directed almost entirely against the publication of articles or books considered insulting to the Heads of foreign States"etc. On the contrary, there is, as you will remember, a special provision in the regulations - against which the press has protested - for the suppression of anything "likely to cause difficulties with a foreign State"; and this has been acted upon in cases where no personalities were involved, and even when no German protests had been received - for example, an article denouncing conditions in Norway has been suppressed for no other reason than that it was feared that the Germans might possibly dislike it. It is true that the censorship has not succeeded in preventing much of the truth being known; and to that extent the phrase in the Political Summary to which Mallet takes exception should no doubt have been modified. That, however, is no credit to the

censorship/

censorship nor to the Swedish Government, but is due to the fact that the press and public opinion are more independent than the government dare to ~~be~~ be.

N.P. I do not wish, however, to revive these controversies with Mallet; but I do want to draw attention to the fifth paragraph of the despatch and to enquire what are the relations of your Ministry with the people who control the airmail service to Stockholm and whether we can do anything to help you get more material on to the aeroplanes or passages for distinguished lecturers. Charles Hambro, of course, is the man to approach on that subject; ~~but~~ and perhaps you have already ~~done so~~ approached him.

L.C.
April 23rd.

V.C.O.

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

25th April, 1941.

(N 1594/378/42).

OUT FILE

100

Dear Kenney,

I expect you will have seen the copy of Mallet's despatch No. 94 of 26th March, about the attitude of the Swedish press which has been sent to the Ministry of Information. The despatch does not, in my view, tell the whole truth about the Swedish censorship. Mallet has himself admitted in a letter to me that the censorship prevents the publication of reports from travellers about internal conditions in Germany; and his earlier despatches show that it is not true that it "is directed "almost entirely against the publication of articles or books "considered insulting to the Heads of foreign States" etc. On the contrary, there is, as you will remember, a special provision in the regulations - against which the press has protested - for the suppression of anything "likely to cause difficulties with a "foreign state"; and this has been acted upon in cases where no personalities were involved, and even when no German protests had been received - for example, an article denouncing conditions in Norway has been suppressed for no other reason than that it was feared that the Germans might possibly dislike it, and there is also the notorious case of the White Book on German concentration camps, discussed in my letter to Mallet of 18th March of which I have sent you a copy. It is true that the censorship has not succeeded in preventing much of the truth being known; and to that extent the phrase in the Political Summary to which Mallet takes exception should no doubt have been modified. That, however, is no credit to the censorship nor to the Swedish Government, but is due to the fact that the press and public opinion are more independent than the government are to be. dare

I do not wish, however, to revive these controversies with Mallet; but I do want to draw attention to the fifth paragraph

of/

R. Kenney, Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

of the despatch and to enquire what are the relations of your Ministry with the people who control the air mail service to Stockholm and whether we can do anything to help you get more material on to the aeroplanes or passages for distinguished lecturers. Charles Hambro, of course, is the man to approach on that subject; and perhaps you have already approached him.

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.
Telegrams :—
" MINI[redacted]M, LONDON."

INDEXED

Kuf with

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

[redacted]ther communication should be addressed to :—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted :—

M.L. 446 1/9/41.

30th April, 1941

FP 85/230

102

My dear Collier,

Thank you for your letter N 1594/378/42 of 25th April about Mallet's Despatch No. 94 of 26th March.

With regard to the question of air transport we are continually pressing for this and another appeal has just been made to the Joint Planning Committee.

Yours ever,

Pow: Kenney

Laurence Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.1674 / G

18 APR 1941

X

103

N.1674 / ~~1037~~ ~~2005~~ E 378/42

From: Mr. Nalder, Stockholm.

No: 230

Date: 17.4.41.

Recd: 18.4.41.

Anglo-Swedish relations.

Following for Air Ministry.

Swedish Chief of Air Staff understands question of release of Hurricanes to Swedish Air Force has been raised by Swedish Legation in London. Although Spitfires would be preferred, Hurricanes would be welcomed. Would appreciate confirmation that Swedish Minister has been approached on this matter.

Last Paper.

N.1291/13/42

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copy to A.M. (Mr. Baring) 19/4

(Minutes.)

Copy sent to A.M. (Mr Baring).

This matter has ~~certainly~~ not been raised here by the Swedish Minister, as far as I am aware.

Mr. Hopkinson

L.C.

April 20th.

Should not a copy of this be sent automatically to the A.M. Communications Dept.

RH 25/4

A copy did go & should have been so noted on the typed copies

ABD 24/4 JWHA 25/4

V.S. April 28.

(Action completed.)

RH 26/4

(Index.)

A

Next Paper.

N.1728/8 378/42

N.1674 / 104
18 APR 1941
Green
N

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet,
No. 230
April 17th 1941

D. 5.40 p.m. April 17th 1941
R. 11.15 p.m. April 17th 1941

MOST SECRET.

Following for Air Ministry for Director of Intelligence.

Swedish Chief of Air Staff informs me that Minister of Defence has asked his advice on the subject of release by us of Hurricanes to Swedish Air Force. Chief of Staff understands that matter has been raised by Swedish Legation in London in general terms. His advice was that although Spitfires would be preferred [1 grp. omitted]s would be welcomed provided they were of similar mark as in present use by Royal Air Force and that number available would allow for considerable re-equipment of fighter units. See my D.O.S. 86/41 of March 28th page 2.

Would appreciate confirmation that Swedish Minister has been approached on this matter as Swedish Foreign Office have made no mention of it to His Majesty's Minister.

18 APR 1941
AIR MINISTRY

8

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N. 1728 / G

22 APR 1941

105

N. 1728/~~1037~~/G 378/42

Rum: Mr. Nutter, Stockholm.

No: 235

Date: 21.4.41.

Rec'd: 22.4.41.

Rumoured offer of British aircraft to Sweden.

Ref. Stockholm tel. 230 (N. 1674/G).

There is now current in Swedish circles in Gothenburg story that British aircraft have been offered to Sweden, and that Swedish Govt. have rejected offer. Enquiries whether there is any truth in this.

Last Paper.

N. 1674/378/42

References.

N. 1674/ n

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

To Stockholm No. 249 of 1/5

(*Minutes.*)

Rep. in Dept (copy of attached)

Mr. Hopkinson

V. T. Gunner 22/4

The Legation have not been approached through the Foreign Office; but Mr. Hambro may know something. (Mr. Hopkinson might perhaps communicate with him).

L. Collier April 22nd

See minute by Mr. Hambro on sheet attached.

J. M. Hobbs April 27th.

Send to Room 4 Draft reply annexed. Please see also ~~xx~~ pages of Mr. Hambro's letter in N. 1653/G.

L. Collier April 28th

[Seen by Sir O. Sargent.]

(Action completed.) RH 12/5

(Index.) A

Next Paper.

N. 1856/A 378/42

N.1728 / G
22 APR 1941

106
Green
N

[Cypher]

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet.
No. 235
April 21st 1941

D. 1.55 p.m. April 21st 1941
R. 4.20 p.m. April 21st 1941

IMPORTANT.

My telegram No. 230. N 1674/325/G

A story that modern aircraft have been offered to Swedish Government by His Majesty's Government is now current in certain Swedish circles in Gothenburg, who are also saying that this offer has been rejected by Swedish Government although favoured by Defence Staff. If there is any truth in this story I hope you will inform me as soon as possible.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.N 1728/325/G

L.C.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,
STOCKHOLM.

Telegram.

No. 249

30.4.41

(Cypher).

EK

(Departmental
~~Secret.~~)

2. AM
1.5.41

107

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

Despatched M.

April, 1941.

Your telegram No. 235 [of April 21st: offer of aircraft to Swedish Government].

Idea of releasing certain fighter aircraft for Sweden in return for concessions in other matters has been ~~under consideration~~ suggested, and although nothing has been said officially to Swedish Legation, Ministry of Aircraft Production may have mentioned possibility to Swedish Minister and/or Air Attaché.

~~Matter, however, has~~ not even reached stage of informal negotiations, so that there can be no question of an offer having been rejected by Swedish ~~Government~~.

ROOM 48 APR 28 1941

FOREIGN OFFICE

L.C. April 28th. 1.20 pm

N.P. Meanwhile I should give no encouragement to the idea, ~~since~~ if it is mentioned

since no decision has yet been taken by the Foreign Office.

BS
May 30

108

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM 109

[This Document is the Property of His Britannic Majesty's Government, and should be kept under Lock and Key.]

(N 1728/325/G)

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 249. D. 2.00 a.m. 1st May, 1941.
30th April, 1941.

uuuuuuu

Your telegram No. 235 [of April 21st: offer of aircraft to Swedish Government].

Idea of releasing certain fighter aircraft for Sweden in return for concessions in other matters has been suggested, and although nothing has been said officially to Swedish Legation, Ministry of Aircraft Production may have mentioned possibility to Swedish Minister and/or Air Attaché.

Meanwhile you should give no encouragement to the idea, if it is mentioned to you since no decision has yet been taken by the Foreign Office.

(N 1728/~~525~~/G) 1037

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 249. D. 2.00 a.m. 1st May, 1941.
30th April, 1941.

uuuuuuu

Your telegram No. 255 [of April 21st: offer of aircraft to Swedish Government].

Idea of releasing certain fighter aircraft for Sweden in return for concessions in other matters has been suggested, and although nothing has been said officially to Swedish Legation, Ministry of Aircraft Production may have mentioned possibility to Swedish Minister and/or Air Attaché.

Meanwhile you should give no encouragement to the idea, if it is mentioned to you since no decision has yet been taken by the Foreign Office.

20

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 1839

23 APR 1941

111

Registry Number } N 1839/378/42

FROM Mr. Mallet. (Stockholm)

No. 134. (78/17/41)

Dated 16th April, 1941.

Received in Registry } 28th April, 1941.

N: Sweden

Alleged British designs on Northern Europe.

Summarises article by Professor Reutenkiöld in the "Stockholms Tidningen" of 9th April, warning readers against the designs of Great Britain on Northern Europe, and alleging that both Great Britain and Germany are suitors for Soviet support, and that the former would not scruple to sell Sweden and Finland to the Soviet Union if such a policy would secure the desired objective. Mr. Mallet has drawn attention of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to this article.

Copied Ministry of Information, Political Intelligence Department; Moscow and Helsingfors.

Last Paper.

N1728

References.

N1286/201/56

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This interesting touch that Swedish Govt circles attach no importance to these allegations. This does not mean that they will not be believed by large numbers of the public unless effectively denied.

E Caulfeild
6. 5. 41.

Liaison Dept. mtg. 8.5

Contact

8/5.

E.O. Cooke.
8/5.

L.C.
May 8th

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

N1286 1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1847

112

No. 134.
(78/17/41).

N 1839
28 APR 1941

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.
16th April, 1941.

Sir,

On the 9th April "Stockholms Tidningen" carried an article by Professor Reuterskiöld, who frequently writes for the newspaper, warning readers against the designs of Great Britain in this part of Europe. The writer alleges that both Great Britain and Germany are suitors for Russia's support and that the former would nor scrupe to sell Sweden and Finland to Russia if such a policy would secure the desired objective. British and Russian interests clash not in Scandinavia but in the Balkans and India and if an accommodation can be reached down there Russia can be compensated up here. It is not impossible that German-Russian differences should be settledat the expense of the States of the Baltic area but they are more likely to be settled at the expense of Turkey. There is no conflict in the Baltic between Sweden and Germany: the conflict is between Germany and Great Britain with Russia playing Britain's game against Germany. Sweden must unite the peoples of the North against outside forces.

2. I mentioned this article to the Secretary General at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on April 16th. He said that his attention had already been called to it by the head of the Press Section of the Ministry at the instigation of my Press Attaché. Monsieur Boheman told me that he had personally remarked on the article to the editor of "Stockholms Tidningen" and suggested to him the undesirability of publishing such nonsense. I said that I did not object to the free expression of different points of view but that it seemed unfortunate that the opposite opinion had not also been given some prominence. I then told Monsieur Boheman that the rumour referred to in Mr. Vereker's telegram No. 227 of March 29th had reached me to the effect that a story was current in Stockholm that Sir Stafford Cripps had informed the Soviet Government that His Majesty's Government had no objection to the occupation by Soviet troops of the Petsamo district and Northern Norway. I felt sure that the Swedish Government did not believe such a rumour but nevertheless felt that they ought to know that Sir Stafford Cripps absolutely denied it and attributed it to German propaganda. Monsieur Boheman replied that I need not worry as no responsible Swedish official would attribute the slightest importance to the story.

N 1286/201/56

3. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Ministry of Information and the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office, and to His Majesty's Representatives at Moscow and Helsingfors.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

V. A. Seymour

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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113

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 1847

28 APR 1941

Registry Number } N 1847/378/42

Admiralty

No. M 05366/41
Secret
Dated 26th Apr. 1941.
Received in Registry } 28th Apr. 1941.

N: Sweden

Suggested visit of Captain Boldt-Christmas to the United Kingdom

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 8th April (N 1382/378/42).

States that there is no objection to an invitation being extended to Captain Boldt-Christmas.

Copied Ministry of Information.

Last Paper.

N 1839

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Tel Stockholm no 260 of 3/5 to Admiralty (Lord I. Admiral) H of I. (Mr Kenney) (see N 1382) May 5

(*Action completed.*)

HG 14/7

(*Index.*)

Admy 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1856

(*Minutes.*)

See w/drawn Admty. comm.

Draft telegram to Mr Mallet herewith.

I am assuming that a seat could be provided for Captain Boldt-Christmas on the ~~aeroplane~~ Special aeroplane, but we should ~~must~~ make certain ~~first~~ this before conveying an invitation.

K.T. Gurney
2/5

~~Mr Hopkinson~~.

(~~I think you know how to do this~~).

I think it is the Legation at Stockholm who allot the seats on the aeroplane coming to this country.

Communicate with Dept.

Yes, in consultation with the Air Attaché

R. Kemp.
2/5

Collier
May 2nd.

[seen by Sir O. Sargent

The Admiralty (Extension 853) telephoned this morning/

morning about Captain Boldt-Christmas, who has not even yet arrived in this country. There is apparently a plane due to leave the United Kingdom, but we do not know for certain whether Captain Boldt-Christmas will return by it.

Meanwhile the Admiralty want to know what is to happen when he arrives in this country. Presumably he will not be called upon to pay his passage, and that part of the expenditure will therefore presumably be borne by the Ministry of ~~Economic Warfare~~. Who is ,however, to be responsible for his expenses after his arrival? The Admiralty presume that we are going to meet the bill, as we invited him.

There is an additional complication. The Naval Attaché at Stockholm has reported that Boldt-Christmas is unpopular in the Swedish navy, having shown himself very conceited on his return from London. He is said to be a friend of M. Prytz, but to be at daggers drawn with the Swedish Naval Attaché here. His utility from a propaganda point of view may be affected by these considerations, and he should not be described as a naval observer, but perhaps only as a naval writer.

Incidentally there is nothing in these papers to show that the Prime Minister was furnished with a copy of our telegram to Mr. Mallet No. 260, as directed by him in N 1382.

(Admiralty are writing about this matter to M. of I.)

General Department.
News Department.
C.C.Department.

7th July, 1941.

If M. of I. will not pay expo. after arrival we must consider paying ourselves, subject to drawing ob[illegible]

21.7.41.

115

Any further communication should be addressed to—

The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London, S.W.1.

quoting "M.05366/41

on the outside of the envelope as well as in the text.

Admiralty, S.W.1.

26th April 1941.

N 1847

23 APR 1941

SECRET

Sir,

In reply to Foreign Office letter No. N.1382/378/42 of April 8th, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that they would have no objection to an invitation on the lines suggested by Mr. Mallet being extended to Captain Boldt-Christmas.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Ministry of Information.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H.N. Morrison

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

es

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 1847/378/42

4-15 ans

4/5/41

F.O. 116

April, 1941

OUT FILE

Draft.

Telegram

Mr Mallet

Stockholm

No. 260

3/5/41.

(Cypher) EK

(Dist. B.)

Copy to Admy (u.c. to Lord Dunwich) ref. and

Copy, with copy of Stockholm tel 195 in N 1382/378/42, to M. of I (u.c. Mr Kenny)

~~Mr Stephenson~~ communicated

Your telegram no. 195
[of April 3rd – visit of a Swedish naval observer to U.K]

Proposal that BOLDT CHRISTMAS should be invited to U.K is approved in principle.

Please convey invitation through Swedish Govt. and give him seat in ~~If it is accepted, we would find a place in the~~ aeroplane ~~for him~~.

ORA
May 3

Dept.

May 2nd

OUT FILE

117

N.1847/578/42.

[Cypher]

DISTRIBUTION B.

To: SWEDEN.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No.260
3rd May, 1941.

D. 4.15 a.m. 4th May, 1941.

[ ] [ ] [ ]

Your telegram No.195 [of April 3rd - visit of a Swedish naval observer to United Kingdom].

Proposal that Boldt Christmas should be invited to United Kingdom is approved in principle.

Please convey invitation through Swedish Government and give him seat in aeroplane.

74) Wt48360/0584 3/40 5,000 pads JC&SLtd 51-6387

INDEXED

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MESSAGE. [illegible] July OUT

SECRET

To N.A. Stockholm

DATE 8/7/42

N

Yes

[illegible]

FROM: Admiralty.

(N 3217)

Your Reference Sheet No.866. Captain Holt-Christmas has not yet arrived. Request he will report as soon as departure definitely settled stating time and place of arrival and how long staying.

[illegible]

for Nd. of M.(855)

D.NI.(4)
D.I.D.
M.(6) and for P.O.(M.03566/41)

70

9

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.1856 / GT

28 APR 1941

4

N.1856/~~1037~~ ~~285~~/G 378/42

From: Dr. Gillies, Air Ministry.

To: W. Lawford.

Date: 25.4.41.

Recd: 28.4.41.

Possibility of air support for Sweden.

Refers to 7.0. tel. No. 170 to Stockholm. This tel. was first intimation that Secretary of State for Air had had that there was any suggestion of our helping to train Swedish air personnel, and he was deeply shocked by it. We'd be glad to learn how idea arose.

Last Paper.

N. 1728/378/42

References.

N.1265/378/42

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

To: Dr. Gillies, A.M. S/S

(Minutes.)

The p.p.s (N.1265 and 1285/~~385~~ 1037/G) were in circulation and are now attached.

It will be seen that the telegram in question (N1265) was based on a letter from Colonel Hollis, and that the offending statement is attributed in that letter to the Chief of the Air Staff!

Private Secretary. 2/5

V.T. Gurney 1/5

Ag. so reply.

L.C. May 2nd

Dft herewith.

V.T. Gurney 2/5

(Action completed.)

RH 8/5

(Index.)

A

Next Paper.

N.1866/~~E~~ 378/42

22107 1/41 F.O.P.

Enter

Tel. No. ABBEY 3411.
Ext. 5374.

AIR MINISTRY,
KING CHARLES STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

120 N

N.1856
28 APR 1941

25th April, 1941.

Northern dept:
Can you help?
S/c
26/4

Dear Lawford,

Telegram No. 170 of 1st April, 1941 from the Foreign Office to Stockholm.

This telegram, of which I enclose a copy, was the first intimation my Secretary of State had had that there was any suggestion of our helping to train Swedish air personnel and he was deeply shocked by it.

No one at the Air Ministry seems to have heard anything about it and I should be grateful if you would let me know how the idea arose.

Yours sincerely,

P.W.J. Pelly
K.W.J.K.B.

V.G. Lawford, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

COPY.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

(This Document is the Property of His Britannic Majesty's Government, and should be kept under Lock and Key.)

N.1265/325/G.

(Cypher)

DISTRIBUTION B.

To: SWEDEN.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No.170 D. 4.20 p.m. 1st April, 1941.
1st April, 1941

.....

SECRET.

Your telegrams Nos. 149 (of March 15th) and 183 (of March 29th: Assistance for Sweden).

I fear that geographical difficulties alone would preclude direct help with fighter aircraft. Air Ministry have had negotiations with Swedish authorities for training Swedish air personnel; but these have not progressed very far.

Suggestion as regards oil is under consideration,

122

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 1856/325/G

To K.C.
Draft. R.W.N.B.
Mr Gilling
Air Ministry
King Charles St
S.W.1

[from Mr Lawford]

despatched 5th May F.O. 1941

123

Secret.

[Dear Gilling]

Your letter of April 25th about our telegram no. 170 of April 1st to Stockholm, in which reference was made to negotiations concerning the training of Swedish air personnel in the United Kingdom.

Our telegram was based on a letter from Hollis to Sargent of March 26th, in which the remarks in question ~~these negotiations are alluded~~ are attributed to the Chief of the air staff.

Yours sincerely
Sgd Valy Lawford

R.W.N.B. 2/5
Private Secretary
↑
L-C
May 3rd

L-C
May 3rd

124

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1.

SECRET.

5th May, 1941.

(N 1856/325/G)

[Dear Gilling,]

Your letter of the 25th April about our telegram No. 170 of the 1st April to Stockholm, in which reference was made to negotiations concerning the training of Swedish air personnel in the United Kingdom.

Our telegram was based on a letter from Hollis to Sargent of the 26th March, in which the remarks in question are attributed to the Chief of the Air Staff.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) V. G. Lawford.

R.W.N.B.Gilling, Esq.
Air Ministry.

10

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.1866 / G

29 APR 1941

X

125

N.1866/~~1057~~/G
378/42

From: Admty.

No: M.05429/41

Date: 23.4.41.

Recd: 29.4.41.

Supply of oil to Swedish Navy.

Ref. to F.O. Ltr of 7th April, No. N.1265/325/G.

This matter appears to have been dealt with by M.E.W. in tel. No. 215 Arjan to Stockholm.

Last Paper.

N. 1856/378/42

References.

N.1265/378/42

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

X.

K.T. Gurney
1/5.

V.E.
May 2nd.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
RH 3/5	N

Next Paper.

N. 1920/G. 378/42

22107 1/41 F.O.P.

Any further communication should be addressed to—
The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London, S.W.1.
quoting M.05429/41
on the outside of the envelope as well as in the text.

Admiralty, S.W.1. 23rd April 1941.

N.1866

SECRET

29 APR 1941

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 7th April, No. N.1265/325/G, about the supply of oil to the Swedish Navy, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that this matter appears to have been dealt with by the Ministry of Economic Warfare in telegram No. 215 Arfar to Stockholm.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H.N. Morrison

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

es

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

127

COPY

(T13/291) GENERAL ARFAR DISTRIBUTION.

(Cypher) FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 215 ARFAR D. 6.50 p.m. 10th April, 1941.
10th April, 1941.

IMPORTANT.

I have informed the Swedish Commercial Counsellor that I am willing to give in exchange for a certain quid pro quo which has already been discussed, and of which you are aware, a quota for the import via Gothenburg of 15,000 tons of petroleum products per quarter for a period of one year, commencing 1st April 1941.

2. This quota would be made up of: (a) 12,000 tons fuel oil for the Swedish Navy, (b) 2,500 tons aviation spirit for the Swedish Air Force, (c) 500 tons lubricating oil for the requirements of these two services.

3. The arrangement is subject to the satisfactory solution of the present Swedish difficulties with the Germans regarding exchange of ships, and must be also subject to the maintenance of all the conditions already agreed upon regarding the Gothenburg traffic.

4. In addition I have agreed to a special import of 1,000 tons of aviation spirit for A/B Aerotransport on the understanding that our commercial aircraft will continue to be fuelled in Sweden, that the Swedish civilian air services are maintained, and that the Swedes proceed with their plans for the institution of a Swedish service between Stockholm and Tehran.

24

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1881

30 APR 1941

128

Registry Number N 1881/378/42.

FROM Foreign Office Minute (Mr. Collier).

No.

Dated 28th Apr. 1941.

Received in Registry 30th Apr. 1941.

N : Sweden.

News material for Swedish journalists in Great Britain.

Draft to Mr. Rowland Kenney of 28th April explains that Mr. Vikland, is concerned about the difficulty of obtaining information as to the true extent of United States aid to Great Britain for transmission to Sweden, a matter which he considers highly important from the British propaganda point of view. Invites suggestions.

Last Paper.

N 1866

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft: Mr R. Kenney
M of I. (Por Mr Collier)
28 Apr.

(*Minutes.*)

See within Mr Kenney's reply to Mr Collier of 30/4

K.T. Gurney 2/5

N American Dept } to see.
Liaison Dept. }
MUC. 85.

L G May 3rd

Dup 2/5

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 1882

OUT FILE

Enter

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

28th April, 1941.

129

N 1881

30 APR 1941

Dear Kenney,

Vikland came to see me the other day; and in the course of the conversation he raised the question of how Swedish opinion, at this critical stage of the war, could be kept informed of the true extent of American aid to this country, which in his view, was the most important propaganda point in our whole armoury, and would do more than anything else to keep Sweden on the right lines and prevent her submitting to fresh German demands. The difficulty, as he sees it, is that the American correspondents over here are not very interested in the subject, since they know it is being "covered" on the other side of the Atlantic, while the Swedish correspondents in America cannot afford to send much home owing to the high cost of cabling; nor has he found the American Embassy here a useful source of information.

Vikland seems doubtful whether anybody in the Ministry of Information would be able to give him what he wants; but I do not know where else he could get it from. Have you any suggestions?

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER

Rowland Kenney, Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.

Telegrams :—
" MINIFORM, LONDON."

Any further communication should be addressed to :—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted :—

FP 134/8

Keep with 129A

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

30th April, 1941

INDEXED

Dear Collier,

Thank you for your letter of 28th April. I think the American Division here will be helpful, and I will put Viklund in touch with them.

Yours ever,

Rowland Kenney

Laurence Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

25

8

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1882

30 APR 1941

130

Registry Number } N 1882/378/42

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) to Mr. Collier.

No 76/12/41.

Dated 21st Apr. 1941.

Received in Registry } 30th Apr. 1941.

N : Sweden.

Attitude of Swedish Press towards Great Britain and British propaganda.

Writes in amplification of his telegram 217 of 12th April (N 1575/378/42), covering following points (a) new powers for the Swedish press (b) freedom of propaganda for Germany and Great Britain (c) British and German film propaganda in Sweden (d) unpopularity of Mr. Westman (e) charge against Syndicalist paper "Arbetarposten".

Copied to Mr. Kenney, Ministry of Information.

Last Paper.

N1881

References.

N872/378/42
N875/378/42
N1105/848/42
N1076/208/42
N935/9/42
N884/9/42

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Desp 4/6

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Hdd 16/9/41.

Next Paper.

N1920

18560 2/39 F.O.P

(Minutes.)

From Stockholm Ltr May 5.

Judging by Major Eriksson's long broadcast on belligerent propaganda in Sweden (N935), Mr. Mallet seems to represent the Swedish attitude correctly, in particular as to the comparative innocence of recent legislation providing for the necessity of publications having a responsible Swedish legal person behind them. Seeing that the Swedes will not allow free play for foreign propaganda, Mr. Mallet wishes to continue to protest against nasty cases of anti-British attacks. He also advocates the supply of British films. My own view is that, as we cannot hope to compete with Germany either in quantity or mendacity (both salient features of German propaganda) we should concentrate on the quality of what little we can furnish.

(see also N1786 & N1883/708/63) E. Cable.

5.5.41.

E.O. Cobb

716 P.T.O. This

This is, for the most part ~~example~~, merely an amplification of the telegram in N 1575/378/42 and is covered by the minutes on that paper.

We have taken up the question of films with the Ministry of Information (see Not N.); and as a copy of this letter has gone to Mr.Kenney he will know the importance which Mr.Mallet attaches to it. As regards the "Arbetarposten", it now appears that this was not a communist paper and that the case was a bad one from our point of view, since ~~and that~~ the editor has been imprisoned, though acquitted of any crime against the Swedish State and not accused of libelling any particlar person, but merely on the charge of "libelling a foreign Power". It is that sort of thing which has caused M. Westmann's unpopularity with the Swedish press and it cannot be explained by a desire to keep out German propaganda pamphlets. Mr. Mallet does not seem to appreciate the distinction between controlling the inflow of such propaganda at the ports and prosecuting Swedish newspapers.

It will now be seen from N 2022/378/42 that M. Westmann has now gone so far in his subservience to the Germans as to confiscate President Hambro's book on the invasion of Norway. The Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs spoke to me about this the other day, saying that he might ask for our support for the protest which the Norwegian Legation at Stockholm would be instructed to make against this action. If he does so, I think we should certainly give it. President Hambro's book was merely an objective account of the German invasion and its suppression is another flagrant example of M. Westmann's bias.

As regards the specific point on which Mr. Mallet asks for my views,- whether he can "encourage the Swedes to maintain their control of propaganda provided that they do so fairly", I do not feel that there is any need for his encouragement of this. According to his letter the Swedish Government are determined in any case to continue this policy in their own interests; and I have not yet seen any specific incidents in which any serious harm has been done to our interests by the circulation of some particular document, against which Mr. Mallet has protested. I do not wish, however, to enter into further controversy with Mr. Mallet on this subject, particularly as I am now giving up my post here; and in the circumstances I propose to leave this letter without a reply so that my successor can consider on its own merits any particular case which Mr. Mallet may subsequently bring to his notice.

L. Collier

10th May, 1941.

CFAS 18/5

76/12/41.

N 1882
30 APR 1941

Enter 132

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.

21st April, 1941.

Dear Collier,

N1570/378/42 I am sending you this line in amplification of my telegram No. 217 of April 12th which was in itself a reply to your letter N. 872/378/42 of March 18th and to your telegram No. 199 of April 9th about the Swedish press regulations. N1105/548/42

N935/9/42 I should like to make it clear that the "new powers" to which I referred in my despatch No. 4 of the 18th February to the Ministry of Information were those conferred on the Government by the Riksdag on February 19th, particulars of which were given in N1076/208/42 paragraphs 3 and 4 of my despatch No. 9 of March 9th to the Ministry of Information. These powers relate mainly to responsibility of publishers and distributors, particularly in the case of imported printed matter, and I still think they will go a long way towards "stemming the flood of German propaganda". The censorship measures are in the melting pot (see paragraph 4 of our telegram No. 217).

I agree with you that the "open door" policy is theoretically the only right one, provided we can really compete with the Germans in all forms of propaganda, and that the "tit for tat" policy is not ideal but is only a "pis aller". The latter policy is however the only possible one from the point of view of the Swedish Government as whatever we may tell them they are not going to stand for having the country flooded with propaganda by either belligerent. This has been their policy all through the war and it is I fear hopeless to expect them to be converted to the other view. They believe that to allow unlimited licence would play into the hands of the fifth column, and that it is the duty of a Government to hamper fifth column activities as best it can.

I wonder if you realise what the actual effect would be if we succeeded in persuading the Swedish Government to give (to quote your own words) "the greatest possible freedom for both sides"? Owing to

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office.

the/

the excellent communications between Germany and Sweden as compared with our own communications with Sweden and to the fact that the Germans are prepared to spend almost unlimited sums of money on propaganda here whereas our Press Department's expenditure is strictly limited, Sweden would soon be swamped with German propaganda to an extent with which we could not hope to compete. You mention in your letter to Kenney (N 935/9/42) of March 18th that you saw no signs that the Swedish Government intended to use their powers to redress the propaganda balance in our favour. To this I can only reply that large quantities of German propaganda are seized from time to time at the Swedish ports and in the post and I shudder to think what the result would be if this procedure were to cease. The mere existence of the law which the Swedish Government at present invokes against the more violent and abusive type of propaganda has certainly acted as a strong deterrent to the Germans, so that we cannot gauge the exact balance merely by comparing the number of books and leaflets confiscated from either party. Major Arvid Eriksson, in his recent wireless talk on foreign propaganda reported in my despatch No. 4 to the Minister of Information, referred to the disadvantages under which British propaganda operated in Sweden, and I believe that this fact is fully realised by the Swedish Government who are doing their best to adjust the balance between German and British propaganda by suppressing much of the German propaganda emanating from Germany and leaving Britain and Germany to carry out their propaganda campaigns as far as possible only with the means at their disposal in Sweden.

where is it?

In view of your favouring the policy of the "open door" I feel chary about making any more protests to the Swedish Government about their failure to suppress the more harmful items of German propaganda. I trust however you will reconsider the matter and modify your instructions so that I can encourage the Swedes to maintain their control of propaganda provided that they do so fairly. Even so I feel that I may at any time have to face an enquiry from the Swedes as to why we do not do more on our own, particularly in the field of film propaganda, to meet the German attack

instead/

instead of leaving the job to them. As you know, the Swedes are allowing "Sieg im Westen" to be shown here, but it has been severely cut, and the Official Censor, in an interview with "Nya Dagligt Allehanda" on April 16th, said that the Authorities were anxious for such films from the allied side to be shown as well, which would receive reciprocal treatment. I certainly feel that if we are to equalise the balance of propaganda in this country without cost to ourselves, and, in fact to our financial profit, there is no better way of doing it than by supplying large quantities of films. These have been regrettably lacking recently owing to lack of space in the aeroplane but it should be borne in mind that there are almost more cinemas per head of the population in this country than anywhere else in the world and that British films are so popular that on the rare occasions when they are shown they invariably attract large houses while all German efforts to corner the Swedish film market have been without avail in spite of every opportunity. The Swedish Government have also been so anxious to counteract German film propaganda that they are granting special facilities for the import of American films in spite of the restricted cargo space available. Therefore it would seem desirable to consider the film problem also from the American end where perhaps more useful propaganda is being done for us even than at home for the simple reason that the United States can still be formally regarded as a neutral power.

On the subject of Westman I have nothing to add to my telegram except to say that his troubles with his own Party seem unfortunately to have blown over so that his position is probably secure again for the time being. The official Swedish view is no doubt that any break in the Coalition at present would lead to national disunity. Therefore any too blatant attempt on our part to discredit Westman would be represented as an attack on the national unity and resented as gross interference in Swedish internal politics.

N884/9/42
N1575/378/42

As regards the "Arbetarposten" I find that this is a Syndicalist and not a Communist paper as reported in my telegram and that its editor Ström runs a minute and obscure party in Gothenburg known as

the/

the "Left Socialist Party". "Arbetarposten" is a weekly paper with a very small circulation and not to be taken seriously. As regards the charge, it appears that Ström was acquitted on the charge of inciting to crime against the State but that he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment under Section 3 paragraph 7 of the Press Freedom Law - Libel of a Foreign Power, evidently Germany.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Kenney.

Yours ever,

Victor Mallet

M1

M.L.

C886 10/9/41.

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.

INDEXED

136

76/14/41.

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.

With the compliments of
His Majesty's Minister.

(Reference: Last paragraph of Mr. Mallet's letter to Mr. Collier (76/12/41) of the 21st April, 1941).

N1882/378/42

5th May, 1941.

COPY.

137

NOTE BY HIS MAJESTY'S CONSUL GOTHENBURG
ON "ARBETARPOSTEN".

"Arbetarposten" is a weekly paper edited by Ström. It is the organ of the "left socialist" party and is, as far as we can understand, Ström's personal paper and his means of livelihood. The party has very few members, and Ström himself stood for the Riksdag at the last election and received only a few hundred votes.

The paper is certainly not communist, and I suppose might be called syndicalist. Its policy has been consistently pro-British and Ström receives both "Nyheter från Storbrittanien" and the "Daily Review of the Press" in English, and we have observed that much of the subject matter of the paper is taken direct from these two.

Ström has been sentenced to two months imprisonment for an article on the proposed transport through Sweden of Norwegian labourers to Germany. These he referred to as "slave transports" and advised the public to storm the railway and release the Norwegians as they passed through Gothenburg. The grounds for conviction are incitement to a breach of the peace. Ström has appealed to "Hovrätten" and is therefore unlikely to be called upon to serve his sentence until the autumn.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Class ..... 371 .....

Piece ..... 29675 .....

Following document(s)*

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~~transferred to PRO Safe Room*~~

NT920/378/17

and closed until ..... 2013 .....

*delete as necessary

27

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 1943

2 MAY 1941

138

Registry Number N 1943/378/42

FROM Air-Commodore A.M. Boyle (Air Ministry) to Mr. Collier

No. S 7145/DAFL.266

Dated 29th Apr. 1941.

Received in Registry 2nd May. 1941

N: Sweden

Proposed visit of Swedish Air Attachés to United Kingdom

Learns from Air Attaché Stockholm that a suggestion has been made that 2 former Swedish Air Attachés should be invited to United Kingdom. The Chief of Swedish Air Staff will release these officers provided visit can be regarded as official. Requests further information, as no such invitation has been issued, and wishes to be informed if the Foreign Office would approve of such a visit.

Last Paper.

N 1920

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft. Air Commodore Boyle (from Mr Collier) 4 May.

(*Minutes.*)

We have just sent, through Mr Mallet, an invitation to Captain Boldt-Christmas, formerly Swedish Naval Attaché in London, to come to England as unofficial naval observer and write articles for Swedish papers. This step was taken on the recommendation of Mr Mallet (see N1382/378/42 and N1847/378/42) and with the consent, somewhat grudgingly given, of the Admiralty.

A visit from an Air Force officer would be, presumably, as valuable as that of a naval officer, especially if it could be arranged that he should write articles while in England or on his return. But the two visits should be on the same footing. Air Commodore Boyle states that the Swedes wish the visit to be an official one.

We have invited Captain Boldt Christmas to come as an unofficial observer, but if uniformity cannot be achieved in any other way, I suppose his visit could be treated as official. The Swedes may wish to regard it as such in any case; ~~under~~ but that is a question for

Mr

Dec 1776

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

16/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 2022

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Mr Mallet to arrange with the Swedish Govt.

Q. Approve the Air Ministry's proposal, and place them before them the considerations mentioned above, sending them a copy of the telegraphic correspondence about Captain Boldt-Christmas. The invitation should presumably be made through the F.O, and this would make it official enough I suppose.

V. C. T. Gurney
3/5

It would that the Swedes should want these officers to come officially; I should have thought it would be less embarrassing for their relations with the Germans if they came on the same basis as Captain Boldt-Christmas. Moreover, the officers could hardly write articles if they came on an official visit. Perhaps, however, all that it meant is that the invitation should come from an official source.

I annex a draft to Air-Commodore Boyle.

L. C.
May 6th.

Enter
140

S.7145/09FL.266

N 1943
2 MAY 1941

Princes House,
W.C.2.

SECRET.

29th April, 1941.

My dear Collier,

We have had a rather mysterious telegram from our Air Attaché, in Stockholm, suggesting that the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff had been informed that the Air Ministry had invited two former Swedish Air Attachés to this country. Our Attaché stated that the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff was willing to release these officers for a visit to the United Kingdom, provided the invitation could be regarded as official.

In fact we have never issued any form of invitation, though we may perhaps have said in the course of ordinary conversation to the Swedish Air Attaché, that old friends would always be welcome here, or some similar remark.

I have taken the matter up with the Vice-C.A.S. here, who agrees that provided reliably sponsored Swedes could be sent, there will be no objection to receiving them, but naturally we must get the Foreign Office approval in the first place, and this letter, therefore, is to enquire whether in the event of a guarantee that reliable Swedes could be sent, you would approve of their reception and short tour of inspection.

Yours ever,

A.T. Boyle.

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

Registry
No:

N 1943/378/42

L.C.

Draft. H.S.

Air Commodore
Boyle.

(From Mr. Collier)

Stockholm tel.No.
195 of April 3rd.
Tel.to Stockholm No.
260 of May 4th.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

80

141

OUT FILE 9. May, 1941.

Dear Boyle,

The answer to your letter to me S 7145/ DAFL.266 of April 29th is that the Foreign Office entirely approve the suggestion that two former Air Attachés at the Swedish Legation here should come over to this country on a tour of inspection.

There is, however, one point which we feel, ought to be cleared up before these officers are actually invited. As you will see from the enclosed copy of telegraphic correspondence with Stockholm, we have agreed to a rather similar suggestion that an ex-Naval Attaché should be invited here in order that he should write articles about the British Navy in the Swedish Press. He is to come, however, as an unofficial observer, and presumably he could not well write articles if he were paying an official visit. It would seem desirable to have these visits all on the same basis; but I see from your letter that the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff wants the invitation for ~~this~~ the air visit to be official.

If it is merely a question of the invitation coming from an official source, there should be no difficulty in making the same arrangements for the air officers as for Captain Bolt-Christmas. If, however, the whole visit is to be official, it will not be in line with the naval visit and might create some personal complications. For my own part, I should have thought it more convenient for the Swedes, and less embarrassing for them in their relations

with/

with the Germans, to have all the visits unofficial; and that is what the Foreign Office would like to see. Perhaps you would like to have a word on the subject with the Admiralty, (where I believe Mr. Walworth is the official concerned).

L.C.
May 7th

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

143

OUT FILE

(N 1943/378/42) FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

9th May, 1941.

Dear Boyle,

The answer to your letter to me S 7145/DAFL.266 of 29th April is that the Foreign Office entirely approve the question that two former Air Attachés at the Swedish Legation here should come over to this country on a tour of inspection.

There is, however, one point which, we feel, ought to be cleared up before these officers are actually invited. As you will see from the enclosed copy of telegraphic correspondence with Stockholm, we have agreed to a rather similar suggestion that an ex-Naval Attaché should be invited here in order that he should write articles about the British Navy in the Swedish Press. He is to come, however, as an unofficial observer, and presumably he could not well write articles if he were paying an official visit. It would seem desirable to have these visits all on the same basis; but I see from your letter that the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff wants the invitation for the air visit to be official.

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relations

Air Commodore
A.R.Boyle, C.M.G., O.B.E.
Air Ministry.

144

END.

relations with the Germans, to have all the visits unofficial; and that is what the Foreign Office would like to see. Perhaps you would like to have a word on the subject with the Admiralty, (where I believe Mr.Walworth is the official concerned.)

(Sd.) LAURENCE COLLIER

F.O.
371

NORTHERN

1941

SWEDEN

FILE No 378

Pol. 2022 – 7449

[redacted]

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

29676

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 2022

6 MAY 1941

2

Registry Number } N 2022/378/42.

FROM Ministry of Information

No. (communicated)

Dated May, 1941.

Received in Registry } 6th May, 1941.

N : Sweden.

Confiscation in Sweden of President Hambro's book "I saw it happen in Norway".

Transmits copy Stockholm telegram 158A Empax of 2nd May containing message from Press Attaché to effect that Swedish translation of President Hambro's book "I saw it happen in Norway" has been confiscated by Swedish Minister of Justice.

Last Paper.

N 1943

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Please see minutes on N 1882/378/42.

L Collier
May 10th.

(Action completed.) 7/5/41

(Index.)

Next Paper.

N 2032

29676

18560 2/39 F.O.P

N 2022

6 MAY 1941

Self-suppression of White Paper on destruction of troops

Enter N.

3

[Cypher] EMPAX

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet
No. 158A EMPAX
2nd May, 1941.

D. 7.50 p.m. 2nd May, 1941
R. 3.25 a.m. 3rd May, 1941

a.a.a.a.a.a.a

Following from Press Attaché.

Swedish translation of President Hambro's book "I saw it happen in Norway" has been confiscated by Swedish Minister of Justice.

D9

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 2032

7 MAY 1941

4

Registry Number } N 2032/378/42.

FROM Mr. Kenney (Ministry of Information)

No. to Mr. Collier. F.P.161/4.

Dated 5th May, 1941.

Received in Registry } 7th May, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Attitude of Swedish press towards British progress in the war.

Refers to Ministry of Information letter of the 30th April (with N 1694/378/42). Are informed by Joint Planning Committee that there is little hope at present of obtaining more assistance from the Air Ministry. Quotes extract from minute explaining difficulties the Air Ministry have to face.

Last Paper.

N 2021

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

18/10/41.

Next Paper.

N 2105

(*Minutes.*)

The outlook for an increase of the air service to Sweden is not hopeful for the moment. Meanwhile we are dealing on another paper with a plan for establishing wireless telephony with Sweden in case to improve our means of rapid communication. (Y

E. Caulfeild
12.5.41.

E.D. Cordeaux
16/5

CFBS
15/5

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.

Telegrams:—
"MINIFORM, LONDON."

Any further communication should be addressed to:—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted:—
FP 161/4

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

N 2032

15th May 1941

Enter

5

with N1594

My dear Collier,

With reference to my letter FP 85/230 of 30th April, we are now informed by the Joint Planning Committee that there is little hope at present of getting more assistance from the Air Ministry. The following is an extract from a minute on the subject:-

> "The Air Ministry's difficulty is that they are getting demands from all quarters for communications between distant places abroad, increased demands for communication with America and demands for aeroplanes to carry important service personnel all over the world. It is not a matter of one or two aeroplanes which are being demanded but hundreds and to satisfy all these it would be necessary to set up a kind of Imperial Air taxi rank."

Our Communications Division keep in constant touch with the Air Ministry and we shall continue to press them, but our experience so far does not lead me to be optimistic!

Yours ever,

Rowland Kenney

Laurence Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

30

8

1941

N

SWEDEN

6

N 2105

10 MAY 1941

Registry Number } N 2105/378/42

FROM Admiralty (communicated)

No.

Dated

Received in Registry } 10th May, 1941.

N: Sweden

Instructions to Swedish and Japanese ships to wireless position of British vessels

Copy of message timed 0010 Z/7 May from N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, quoting Seattle report that Swedish and Japanese vessels have been ordered to wireless position of all British vessels in their vicinity

Last Paper.

N 2032

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) 16.5/9

(Index.) 1/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 2240

(*Minutes.*)

? Inform Mr. Mallet & ask him to make discreet enquiries as to the truth of this report, which, as far as Swedish ships are concerned, seems rather startling.

E. Cadogan
13.5.41.

We should first of all consult the Admty.; they may have already telegraphed to the N.A., Stockholm.

V.O.C.
13/5.

The Admiralty have sent a signal to Seattle inquiring further into this report, and will let us know

know what answer they get. They suspect that the orders come from the German consuls, and are ignored by the Swedish ships. M.L. Clarke 17.5.

? await further news from Admiralty.

E. Clarke
17.5.41.

BV. 20/5

E.V. Coode
17/5.

CFOW
17/5

The Admlty now tell me that they tried in vain to obtain confirmation of this.

Elb 9.9.41.

(120472) Wt48360/0584 3/40 5,000 pads JC&SLtd 51-6396

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

entu N & IN

From N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

RECEIVED:—
DATE 7.5.41.
TIME 0516.

Naval Cypher X by W/T.

Addressed Capt. on Staff, Singapore, Repeated Admiralty, C. in C. America & West Indies, C.O.P.O. Esquimalt.

766. Seattle report A 1 repetition A 1 that Swedish and Japanese vessels have been ordered to wireless position of all British vessels in their vicinity.

0010Z/7.

Advance copy Ops., O.D., & O.I.C.

N 2105
10 MAY 1941

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2).
A.C.N.S. (F).
C.S.O. to 1st S.L.
Ops. (4).
O.D. (5).
O.I.C. (2).
D.N.I. (4).
D.S.D.9.
D.T.D. (4).
D.T.D. (M).
M. (2).
D.A/S.W.
I.P. (3).
W.D.
M. 34.
M. 36.

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION BY M.

F.O.

VT

'41

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 2240
17 MAY 1941
9

Registry Number } N 2240/378/42.

FROM Mr. R. Kenney, Ministry of Information

No. to Mr. Cooke.
FP 85/286.

Dated 16th May, 1941.

Received in Registry } 17th May, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Mr. Nicolson's speech to the Anglo-Swedish Society.

Refers to Mr. Collier's letter of the 16th April (N 1518/378/42). Enquiries with Reuters have elicited that no "Flash" on the subject of Mr. Nicolson's speech was sent prior to two messages of which copies are attached for perusal and return. Asks whether Foreign Office agree that no further action should be taken in the matter.

Last Paper.

N 2105

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Letter to Mr Kenney (from Mr Clarke) May 22

(*Minutes.*)

I agree with Mr Kenney that there is nothing to be gained by pursuing the matter further now. It is nearly four months since Mr Nicolson's speech.

M.L. Clarke 21.5.

? Tell him so & return the enclosures.

E. Collier
21.5.41.

C.F.S.
21/5

Letter sent to Mr Kenney. M.L.C.
22.5.

DUPO 23/5

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Y 486 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 2319

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Telephone No.
EUSton 4321.

Telegraphic Address: —"MINIFORM
[redacted], LONDON."

Any further communication should be addressed to:—
The Director General and Secretary,
and the following reference should be quoted:—
FP 85/286

Cuter 10

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

N 2240

16th May 1941

17 MAY 1941

Dear Coote,

With reference to Collier's letter N 1518/378/42 of 16th April enclosing a letter from Victor Mallet about Harold Nicolson's speech, I have made exhaustive enquiries here and the matter has been taken up with Reuters, who tell us that no "Flash" on the subject of the speech was sent prior to two messages beginning :-

"ATLAS Twentynine Londres discourant dejeuner .....

"ATLAS Twentynine nous Britanniques ete vaincus que ....."

copies of which I enclose herewith for your perusal and return.

In the light of this there seems to have been some misunderstanding in Stockholm; but I do not see that there is anything to be gained by pursuing the matter further and I propose to take no further action in the matter. Do you agree?

Yours ever,

Rowland Kenney

E.O.Coote, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

11

Copie.

(N 2240/378/42).

FP 85/286

28.1.41.

ATLAS

TWENTYNINE LONDRES discourant dejeuner societe anglosuedoise soussecretaire ministere information nicolson declara guillemets dans monde nouveau que nous et nos cousins outremer aurons a construire vous aussi devrez jouer votre role stop notre ordre nouveau sera pas base sur esclavage europemais sur sa liberation stop yaura pas etats esclaves stop yaura communaute peuples libres chacun resolvant ses propres problemes stop plus importants yaura union peuples dont chacun sacrifiera partie son independance politique et economique en faveur bienetre et defense communaute dans son ensemble stop je me adresse a vous maintenant pendant temps repit avant grande bataille stop nous savons tous que cette deuxieme bataille grandebretagne sera feroce et peutetre de grande etendue stop jamais un pays ete si uni ou si confiant dans sa cause stop SUIVRA

TWENTYNINE ATLAS PAGE TWO

nous britanniques ete vaincus que lorsque etions pas surs si droit etait notre cote stop savons aujourdhui que possedons courage et determination notre peuple et conscience de moitie monde stop demandons pas sympathie encore moins admiration stop nous demandons seulement confiance et nous trahirons pas cette confiance stop nous nous rendons compte que cette grande bataille est lutte pour notre independance et sous notre chef nous combattrons quelque soit prix jusquau moment ou pour quatrieme fois dans notre histoire nous aurons sauve monde guillemets.

12

OUT FILE

N 2240/378/42 FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

22nd May, 1941.

Dear Kenney,

Thank you for your letter F.P. 85/286 of the 16th May enclosing copies of Reuter messages which I now return.

We agree that there is nothing to be gained by pursuing the matter further.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) M.L.CLARKE.

R. Kenney Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

32

13

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 2319

20 MAY 1941

Registry Number N 2319/378/42.

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Mallet, Stockholm.

No. 281 Cypher.

Dated 19th May, 1941.

Received in Registry 20th May, 1941.

N : Sweden.

Visit of Swedish Minister in London to Stockholm.

Swedish Minister is giving everyone most cheerful account of England.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs are particularly delighted at Prime Minister's courtesy in inviting him to luncheon.

Last Paper.

N 2240

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

18. Priv. Secty
No 10. May 27

(*Minutes.*)

I am glad I read this. I should imagine that the effect would be similar in the case of all persons, not directly inimical to us, returning to their own countries from here. This is first class propaganda.

E. Cadogan
20. 5. 41.

Pol Secy

CRS
20/5.

A copy should go to No 10 Downing St.

RAB 22/5

Mic. 26.5.

(Action completed.) D40 29/6

(Index.) Y 2686 16/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 2320

21190 F.C.P.

N

14

[Cipher].

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

From STOCKHOLM To FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet
No. 281
19th May, 1941.

D. 5.15 p.m. 19th May, 1941.
R. 1.10 a.m. 20th May, 1941.

www

Swedish Minister is busy giving everyone most cheerful account of England.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs are particularly delighted at Prime Minister's courtesy in inviting him to luncheon.

N 2319
20 MAY 1941

20 MAY 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

33

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 2320

20 MAY 1941

15

Registry Number } N 2320/378/42

FROM Air Commodore Boyle, Air Ministry
No. to Mr. Collier.

S.7145/DAFL.376

Dated

Received in Registry 17th May, 1941
20th May,

N. Sweden.

Proposed visit of Swedish Air Attachés to United Kingdom.

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 9th May (N 1943/378/42). Proposes to wire Air Attaché Sweden on the lines of the attached draft on which Foreign Office views are invited.

Last Paper.

N 2319

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft. Air Comre Boyle (pour vr Walker) May 26

(*Minutes.*)

? Inform Air Commodore Boyle that we agree.

E. Cadogan.
21. 5. 41.

D440 17/6 (Action completed.)

26/11/41. (Index.)

N2466 17/9/41.

Next Paper.

N2465

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

16

Mr. Cable.

Mr. Craighill of the Government Hospitality Fund rang up to enquire whether the Air Ministry had consulted us regarding a proposal put to the Fund by the Air Ministry that two Swedish airmen should be put up over here by H.M.Government on the same basis as Captain Bold Christmas. Mr. Craighill would like to know whether the Foreign Office have been consulted and approve.

I suggest we should telephone reply.

17th October, 1941.

after obtaining the attached pip, I was able to get in touch with Mr. Craighill to-day & told him that we had been consulted & entirely approved the visit (17.10.41). Mr. Craighill will let us know when they arrive.

E.J.Cable
20.10.41.

E.O.Cooke.
20/10.

Thanks.

20/10

enter Attaché Mp. Soon

17

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

S.7145/D9FL.376

Princes House,
Kingsway, W.C.2.

17th May, 1941.

Dear Collier,

Thank you for your letter of the 9th May N.1943/378/42.

I propose to wire to our Attaché in Sweden on the lines of the enclosed draft, and write, therefore, to ask if you approve its terms or, alternatively, will be good enough to make what amendments you think advisable.

Yours ever,

A. L. Bg.

N 2320
20 MAY 1941

L. Collier, Esq., C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

S.7145.

18

DRAFT CABLE TO AIR ATTACHE, STOCKHOLM.

Your A.149 of the 6th May. Approval has now been given to the invitation of LJUNGDAHL and HAGGLOF. We feel that Swedish authorities will prefer that visit should be unofficial. You should therefore tell Chief of Staff that although the invitation to these Officers must be of an unofficial nature they will be given all possible facilities. The visit of LJUNGDAHL and HAGGLOF we feel would be most useful in that both of them have very good knowledge of this country and have watched development of the Royal Air Force and can better contrast its present state with its state when they were here. You are given authority to treat this matter in the way which you consider best in conformity with above outline and should suggest suitable date for arrival of these two Officers who can be accompanied by yourself if your Minister can spare you.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 2320/378/42

M.C.
MS.
Draft A.R.
Air Commodore
Boyle
C.B.E., O.B.E.
from
M.W. Warner

OUT FILE 19 gh.

28th May 1941.

Dear Boyle, I apologise for the delay in replying to your letter to ~~the~~ my predecessor, of 17th May (S 7145/DAFL.376), enclosing a draft tel. to the Air Attaché, Stockholm. ~~Might~~ it be a good thing to ~~could you~~ insert in the 6th. ~~tel~~ the gist of the arguments in our letter N 1943/378/42 of 9th May for preferring an unofficial visit? I think these would be useful to the Air Attaché.

I foresee some that the phrase "We feel that Swedish auths. will prefer that the visit shd. be unofficial" may need some elaboration in view of the proviso of the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff that the invitation must be regarded as official.

Otherwise I have no comments on the draft tel.

(Sgd) C.F.A. Warner Yours sincerely,

C Ford 25/5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 2320/378/42

M.E.C.

Draft.
Air Commodore
Boyle
Air Ministry
From
Mr Warner

S.7145/DAFL.376

20

Dear Boyle,

Your letter to Collier of 17th May enclosing a draft telegram to the Air Attaché, Stockholm.

In view of the opinion of the Swedish Chief of Air Staff reported in your letter to Collier of 29th April, perhaps it would be better to ~~alter~~ alter the ~~second~~ third sentence to something on these lines: "We think it desirable that the visit should be unofficial" (instead of "We feel, etc.") — going on: "You should however...."

Otherwise we approve the terms of the draft.

El Caballo
22.5.41.

Mr Collier
No. I suggested the draft. in reply to the suggestion in subject tel. the arrangements in the letter is N.1943 to be left entirely unofficial.
CFCS
23/5

OUT FILE

21

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.
26th May, 1941.

(N 2320/378/42)

Dear Boyle,

I apologise for the delay in replying to your letter to my predecessor, Collier, of the 17th May (S 7145/DAFL/376), enclosing a draft telegram to the Air Attaché, Stockholm.

Might it be a good thing to insert in the draft the gist of the arguments in our letter N 1943/378/42 of the 9th May for preferring an unofficial visit? It occurs to me that the phrase "We feel that Swedish authorities "will prefer that visit should be "unofficial" may need some elaboration in view of the proviso of the Chief of the Swedish Air Staff that the invitation must be regarded as official.

Otherwise I have no comments on the draft telegram.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) R.A. Warner

Air Commodore
A.R. Boyle, C.M.G., O.B.E.
Air Ministry.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group..... FO .....

Class ..... 371 .....

Piece ..... 29676 .....

Following document(s)*

retained in the Department of origin*

~~transferred to PRO Safe Room~~*

N 2465 / 378 / 42

N 2470 / 378 / 42

and closed until..... 2017 .....

*delete as necessary

10

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N.2478/G

29 MAY 1941

X

22

N.2478/~~1037/G~~ 378/42

From: Dr. Gilling, Air Ministry.

Date: 24.5.41.

Rec'd: 29.5.41.

Question of air support for Sweden.

Ref. 7.0. letter of 5/5. (N.1856/G).

Col. Hollis has no record of conversation in which remarks attributed to C.A.S. were made, and fears he may have misrepresented C.A.S. C.A.S. himself thinks he did not make any such statement.

Last Paper.

N.1920/378/42

(Minutes.)

1) Dr. Gilling, A.M. —— 4/6

References.

N.1856/378/42

(Print.)

This has a distinct bearing on Mr. Hambro's suggestion, at yesterday's meeting on policy towards Sweden, about sending a few fighter aircraft to Sweden for training purposes. If that idea is pursued, this letter and N.1856/G should be consulted first of all.

E. Calle

29.5.41.

As Mr. Gilling said in N.1856/G that the A.M. were deeply shocked by the proposal to train Swedish air personnel in

(How disposed of.)

To: Dr. Gilling, A.M. 3/6

To Stockholm 330, 6/6

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
RH 12/6	A

Next Paper.

N 6027/6027/42

22385 4/41 F.O.P.

to be presumed that they remain
shocked by it however the
misunderstandings arose between
the C.A.S. & Col. Hollis. In this case,
we must inform Mr. Mallet
with ref. to our tel. No 170 of the
1st April.

Pl. dft. from Mr Crawford to Mr
Gilling, enclosing for enclosure dft. tel to Mr
Mallet saying that the relevant
sentence in our tel. No 170 was
based on a misunderstanding
enquiring whether we can add
something to the draft on the
subject mentioned at X in
this letter.

CFBS.
29/6

Now see reply from Mr Gilling.
Dft. tel. despatched. Room 46

CFBS.
6/6.

26/5

Northern dept.

4/6 24
26/5

Tel. No. ABBEY 3411.
EXT.....

AIR MINISTRY,
KING CHARLES STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

SECRET

24th May, 1941.

N.2478/G

29 MAY 1941

N.1856/5

N

Dear Lawford,

In your letter of the 5th May about the training of Swedish air personnel you said that your telegram to Stockholm was based on the letter from Hollis to Sargent of the 26th March in which the remarks in question were attributed to the C.A.S.

I think I should let you know that Colonel Hollis has now informed us that while he thought the C.A.S. had made this statement in conversation at a Chiefs of Staff meeting, he has no record of this conversation and fears that he may have misrepresented C.A.S. C.A.S. himself thinks that he did not make any such statement but merely mentioned a proposal that if attacked the Swedes should send pilots over here to collect some aircraft.

X

Yours sincerely,

Ronald Cilley

V.G. Lawford, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 2478/1037/6

M.E.C.

Draft.
Mr Gilling
Air Ministry

from
Mr Lawford

Secret

25

3rd June

Dear Gilling.

Thank you for your letter of 24th May explaining how the misunderstanding arose about the C.A.S. and the training of Swedish air personnel.

We must now inform Mallet at Stockholm accordingly and I enclose a draft tel. to him for your concurrence.

Could you let us know if we can add anything to the draft about the proposal mentioned in the last sentence of your letter? If so, what we may say?

Yours sincerely
(sgd) U.g. Lawford.

Draft tel. attached in draft.

Pro Sec. 4/6
first.

E. Calvert
31.5.41.

31/5

3/6.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

SECRET

3rd June, 1941.

(N 2478/1037/G)

26

Dear Gilling.

Thank you for your letter of 24th May explaining how the misunderstanding arose about the Chief of the Air Staff and the training of Swedish air personnel.

We must now inform Mallet at Stockholm accordingly, and I enclose a draft telegram to him for your concurrence.

Could you let us know if we can add anything to the draft about the proposal mentioned in the last sentence of your letter and, if so, what we may say?

Yours sincerely

(sgd) V. G. Lawford.

R.W.N.B. Gilling, Esq.
Air Ministry.

Tel. No. ABBEY 3411.
EXT.....

AIR MINISTRY,
KING CHARLES STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

4th June, 1941.

Dear Lawford,

Many thanks for your letter of the 3rd June.

We like your draft telegram to Mallet as it stands and would wish for no addition.

Yours sincerely,

H.W.S. Cilly

N.2478
5 JUN 1941

V.G. Lawford, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No: N 2478/1037/G

M.I.C.

Draft.

Stockholm ✓

Telegram. No. 330 ✓
June 6.

Cypher/NDIV.

~~Distr. B.~~
[Gen. Distr.]

[Secret Priv. Secy.]
CFAS.

E.L. Cuttle
31.5.41.

2-1 open

28

✓ 7-6-41

Despatched ✓ 5.0 a.M.

Secret

My Tel. No. 170 [of 1st Apr. Assistance for Sweden]

My Statement about negotiations for training of Swedish air personnel was based on a misunderstanding and is incorrect.

CFAS.
6/6.

29

N.2478/1037/G.

[Cypher] GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

To: SWEDEN.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 330. D. 5.0 a.m. 7th June, 1941.
6th June, 1941.

- - - -

SECRET.

My telegram No. 170 [of 1st April: Assistance for Sweden].

Statement about negotiations for training of Swedish air personnel was based on a misunderstanding and is incorrect.

37

N

1941

SWEDEN

30

N 3369

3 JUL 1941

Registry Number } N 3369/378/42

FROM Parliamentary Question.(Mr. Vyvyan Adams).

No. –

Dated 1st July, 1941.

Received in Registry 3rd July, 1941.

N : Sweden.

Anglo-Swedish Relations.

Mr. Butler had no immediate reply to make to Mr.Vyvyan Adams' question on His Majesty's Government's relations with Sweden.

Last Paper.

N 2478

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

x M.C. 5.7.

(Action completed.)

bc 2/7

(Index.)

N 2486 17/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 3373

21190 F.O.P

NORTHERN

N

Parliamentary Question

31

60.

V

* ~~25.~~ Major Vyvyan Adams,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether he desires to make any statement on our relations with Sweden. [*1st Sitting Day after 29th June.*]

ANSWERED 1 JUL 1941

REPLY ATTACHED.

N 3369

3 JUL 1941

flyA.

The attached telegram to H.M.Minister at Stockholm instructs the latter to speak strongly to the Swedish Government about the permission for German troops to cross Sweden.

We have also had reports that the German Government have made further demands on Sweden, some of which at least have been met by the Swedish Government.

It looks therefore as if Sweden might be induced to assist Germany still further as against Russia. In these circumstances our relations with Sweden may deteriorate, in any case the situation is so fluid that the present moment would be ill-chosen for a detailed statement.

C. Butler.

30th June, 1941.

Jque

C.F.A.Warner

30/6.

OSBaigent

Jun 30

1224

27 JUN 1941

R.R.A.

E.O. REGISTRY

SWEDEN.

Major Adams asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he desires to make any statement on our relations with Sweden?

Mr. Butler: No, Sir; not to-day.

RLB 27.6

DRAFT REPLY

To

Major Vyvyan Adams

* 23. 29th June.

The answer is in the negative. Normal diplomatic relations with Sweden are being maintained.

or
our relations with Sweden are still normal

My n.h.f. prefers to await the [illegible]

~~Hadn't~~

He did not today, but there are some questions addressed to my n.h.f. for tomorrow on this subject.

RLB
30/VI.

38

1941

N

SWEDEN

33

N 3373

3 JUL 1941

Registry Number } N 3373/378/42

FROM Parliamentary Questions.

No.

Dated 2nd July, 1941

Received in Registry } 3rd July, 1941

N: Sweden.

Anglo-Swedish Diplomatic Relations. Riley

Replying to questions by Messrs. Jackson, and Silverman on present diplomatic relations with Sweden, Mr. Eden stated that he had made representations to the Swedish Minister on the matter of German troop transit but that he had no statement to make at the moment. Diplomatic relations with Sweden remained normal. Mr. Thorne asked a supplementary question.

Last Paper.

N 3369 ~~N 2476~~

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

9) Stockholm 67 July 8

(*Minutes.*)

See within.

Scarcely worth, perhaps, telegraphing this to Mr. Mallet?

E. Calle
3.7.41.

Copy to Stockholm.

GHS
4/7.

(Action completed.)

WE 9/7

(Index.)

17/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 3554

N 3373
NORTHERN
3 JUL 1941

N

34

Parliamentary Question

LA 6

Mr. Riley,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, what are the present diplomatic relations between His Majesty's Government and the Government of Sweden; whether he has any information as to Sweden allowing German troops to pass through Swedish territory to Finland; and what action His Majesty's Government is taking in the matter. [*2nd Sitting Day after 29th June.*]

ANSWERED 2 JUL 1941
REPLY ATTACHED.

The attached copies of telegrams show what has passed between the Swedish Foreign Minister and H.M.Minister at Stockholm in connexion with the passage of German troops through Sweden, and indicates in what direction the further German demands on Sweden go. Although the Swedish Government maintain that they have not acceded to all these requests, the tendency is towards greater concessions on the part of Sweden. At the same time Mr. Mallet in his telegram No. 408, the last one attached, suggests that Sweden may resist more firmly to such demands in future, but presumably this will depend on the development of the military situation and on the urgency of German demands.

flag E

E. Cecil

30th June, 1941.

I attach draft reply. Cypher tel. No. 387 flag A on Stockholm tel. to Stockholm No. flag B.

412.

If a supplementary on the subject is asked, we can say that this concession is not in accordance with the obligations of neutrality.

1326/7

27 JUN 1941
E.O. REGISTRY.

It will be seen from paragraph 6 of Stockholm No. 392, flag C, and from last paragraph of Stockholm No. 394, flag D, that the Soviet Government do not look like reacting very strongly. flag E It is clear from Stockholm telegrams Nos. 408 and 417 that Mr. Mallet is much against any too strong reaction here.

I attach draft reply.

flag F

C.J.A.Warner

1st July, 1941.

34A

SWEDEN (PASSAGE OF GERMAN TROOPS).

7. **Mr. Jackson** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he has any information as to the extent to which Sweden is giving support to the German attack on Russia; and whether he has a statement to make?

6. **Mr. Riley** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what are the present diplomatic relations between His Majesty's Government and the Government of Sweden; whether he has any information as to Sweden allowing German troops to pass through Swedish territory to Finland; and what action His Majesty's Government is taking in the matter?

13. **Mr. Silverman** asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the Swedish Government's failure to maintain its neutrality in that it has permitted German armed forces to enter its territory in order to attack Russia, normal diplomatic relations with that Government are to be maintained by Great Britain?

Mr. Eden: The Swedish Government have informed His Majesty's Government that, while reaffirming their intention to remain neutral, they are, at the request of the German and Finnish Governments, permitting one German division to pass from Norway through Sweden to Finland. Representations have been made by myself to the Swedish Minister, and also by His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm, but I have at present no further statement to make on this subject. Diplomatic relations with Sweden remain normal.

Mr. Thorne: Is it not the fact that the Swedish Government were told plainly that unless they allowed the troops to go through the Germans would force them through?

Mr. Eden: I cannot answer for what was said to other Governments.

---

2 JUL 1941

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Draft. Reply.

35

I will, with permission, answer this question and Nos. 7 and 13 together.

~~Diplomatic relations with Sweden are normal.~~

The Swedish Government have informed H.M.Government that, while reaffirming their intention to remain neutral, they are, at the request of the German and Finnish Governments, permitting one German division to pass from Norway through Sweden to Finland. ~~H.M.Government have expressed their regret at this decision.~~

~~Note for supplementary.~~

Representations have been made by myself to the Swedish Minister, and also ~~in~~ Stockholm.

No protest has been made by the Soviet Government.

RWB
1/vii

By the Minister at

Diplomatic relations with Sweden remain normal at

but / Law at present is

further Statement to make on this subject-

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

DRAFT REPLY.

~~41~~ 6 Mr. Riley.

2nd Sitting Day after 29th June.

The Swedish Government have informed H.M. Government that, while reaffirming their intention to remain neutral, they are, at the request of the German and Finnish Govts., permitting one German division to pass from Norway through Sweden to Finland. H.M. Government ~~much~~ have expressed their regret at this decision. ~~and have made strong representations to the Swedish Govt.~~ ~~Normal diplomatic relations are however being maintained.~~

~~This decision has been deplored by H.M. & has been the subject~~

~~Report~~ Diplomatic relations with Sweden are ~~being~~ normal

Supplies

Representations have been made by myself to the Swedish Minister & also in Stockholm.

No protest has been made by the Soviet Govt.

NORTHERN

N

Parliamentary Question

37

LA 7

* ~~18.~~ Mr. Jackson,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if he has any information as to the extent to which Sweden is giving support to the German attack on Russia; and if he has a statement to make. [*2nd Sitting Day after 29th June.*]

ANSWERED 2 JUL 1941
REPLY ATTACHED.

We have reports of further requests from Germany for facilities for their men-of-war to be repaired in Swedish ports, for the use of Swedish territorial waters by German men-of-war, for permission to fly across Sweden, and for the use of Swedish aerodromes by German aircraft damaged or forced to land, but the Swedish Government assure us that they have not or in any case only partially acceded to these requests so that there would seem to be no necessity for mentioning them, unless they are specifically enquired about.

E. Cadogan
30.6.41.

I think the attached draft reply wd. meet the case.

C.A. Warner
30/6.

27 JUN 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

NORTHERN

Parliamentary Question 38

LA 13.

* Mr. Silverman,—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether, in view of the Swedish Government's failure to maintain its neutrality in that it has permitted German armed forces to enter its territory in order to attack Russia, normal diplomatic relations with that Government are to be maintained by Great Britain. [*2nd Sitting Day after 29th June.*]

ANSWERED 2 JUL 1941

REPLY ATTACHED.

JUL 1941

F.O. REGISTRY.

39 in this box. CFO's

DRAFT REPLY.

To

Mr. Jackson

+ 48 29th June.

~~For an answer~~ I would refer the honourable Member to the reply which I have given ~~to-day~~ to the honourable Member for Dewsbury.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3a

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 3554

10 JUL 1941

40

Registry Number } N 3554/378/42.

FROM Admiralty.

No. M.05466/41.

Dated 8th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 10th July, 1941

N : Sweden.

Visit of Captain Boldt-Christmas to United Kingdom.

Communicates copy letter of 8th July to the Ministry of Information stating that an official invitation has been issued to Captain Boldt-Christmas to visit the United Kingdom, to write press articles on naval subjects, and asking if the Ministry of Information have any suggestions to make in connexion with the visit.

Last Paper.

N 3373

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

see within.

10.7.41.

(Action completed.)

AG 14/7

(Index.)

N 3556 11/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 3717.

21190 F.O.P

N 41

M.05466/41.

8th July, 1941.

SECRET & IMMEDIATE

3354

With the compliments of the

JUL 1941

Secretary of the Admiralty.

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

M.05466/41 8th July, 42.

SECRET & IMMEDIATE.

Sir,

I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Minister of Information, that at the suggestion of H.M. Representative at Stockholm an official invitation has been extended by the Foreign Office, with the concurrence of this Department, to Captain Boldt-Christmas (Retired), formerly Naval Attache at the Swedish Legation in London, to visit this country to write press articles on naval subjects. He is well known as a naval writer in Sweden and has already written in the Swedish press valuable propaganda articles from the point of view of the British Navy.

2. My Lords propose to arrange for Captain Boldt-Christmas to visit H.M. Ships and Naval Establishments. Before making any definite arrangements, however, they would be glad to hear whether the Minister of

Information..

The Secretary,
Ministry of Information,
Senate House,
London University, W.C.1.

Information has any suggestions to offer in connection with the visit.

3. A copy of this letter is being sent to the Foreign Office.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Sgd. G.A.C. Witheridge

40

N

44

1941

SWEDEN

N 3717

15 JUL 1941

Registry Number N 3717/378/42.

FROM Mr. Dean (Admiralty) to Mr. Cable.

No. M 05460/41.

Dated 12th July, 1941.

Received in Registry 15th July, 1941.

N : Sweden.

Visit of Captain Boldt-Christmas to the United Kingdom.

Encloses copy reference sheet No. 242 of 11th July from the Naval Attaché Stockholm on the subject of Captain Boldt-Christmas' mission in the United Kingdom.

Last Paper.

N 3554

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel to Stockholm no 513 Aug 6

8) Admiralty to Dunwich 14 Aug 7

(Minutes.)

M. Clarke 18.7

This is referred to in my minute on N1847.

JLd. 19.7.

(Action completed.)

16 21/7

(Index.)

Y 466 10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N3969.

21190 F.O.P

Military Branch,
Admiralty,
S.W.1. 45

M.O. 366/41.
SECRET.

12th July, 1941.

Dear Cable,

With reference to your telephone conversation concerning the invitation to Capt.Boldt-Christmas to visit this country to write press articles on naval subjects, you will no doubt have seen a copy of Admiralty letter of the 8th to the Ministry of Information and of our signal to the Naval Attache at Stockholm timed 2008B/8. You have not seen the Naval Attache's Reference Sheet No. 242 referred to in the signal and as I think you will be interested in his statements concerning the position of Capt. Boldt-Christmas I send you a copy herewith.

N.3554

N.3717

Yours sincerely,

apDean

E.G.Cable, Esq.,
C.M.G.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

H.

N 3717
15 JUL 1941

COPY.

SECRET.

entered pp 46

REFERENCE SHEET NO. 242.

FROM.....NAVAL ATTACHE, STOCKHOLM.
TO.....THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.
DATE.....11th June, 1941.

SUBJECT:- CAPTAIN BOLDT-CHRISTMAS - HIS MISSION IN ENGLAND.

1. This officer will cross to U.K. at the same time as this memorandum. The following notes on his qualities may be of interest:-

(a) He is definitely a well known Anglophile writer of the blue water school and has, in Sweden, a large and intelligent public, who much appreciate his articles in the Press. He is certainly the only man to give the Swedish people the right impression of the strength of the British Navy, and all it stands for.

(b) He is, however, unpopular with the Swedish Naval authorities, who have much resented his rather high-handed manner, since his return from being Naval Attache in London. Consequently they have pointed out to me that he is, in no way, representing the Swedish Navy, and I have assured them that we want him only as a naval writer.

(c) He is, fortunately, a friend of Mr. Pritz, the Swedish Minister, but he is definitely at daggers drawn with the present Naval Attache, Wesstrom.

2. Thus, although the Swedish Navy, from personal prejudice, slightly resent our invitation to this officer, I have no doubt, that, providing you are able to offer him reasonable facilities, his pen will impress upon the Swedes, and indirectly upon some of the German public, the wide and effective aspects of British Sea power.

(Sgd) Henry M. Denham.
Captain.
Naval Attache.

H.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 3717/378/42

E.G.C.

Draft. TELEGRAM.

Mr. Montagu-
Pollock,
STOCKHOLM.

No. 515

Aug 6

Cypher.

EK 3

Departmental
No.2.

Copy to:
ADMIRALTY,
u/c Lord Dunwich

Aug 7.

630p

Desp 7.20 PM
6 8 41 47

O.C. FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

August, 1941.

~~Your~~ My telegram No. 260 of May 30:

visit of Captain Boldt Christmas to the United Kingdom.

Admiralty wish Captain Boldt Christmas if possible to visit this country while Swedish Naval Attaché is away on leave in Sweden and while your Naval Attaché is here for consultation. Unless you see valid objection please arrange for Captain B.C. to travel by the plane which brings your Naval Attaché to the United Kingdom. Passages are being arranged here.

OUT FILE

48

(N 3717/378/42)

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 515.
6th August, 1941. D. 7.20 p.m. 6th August, 1941.

:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:

My telegram No. 260 [of 3rd May: visit of Captain Boldt Christmas to the United Kingdom].

Admiralty wish Captain B[oldt] Christmas if possible to visit this country while Swedish Naval Attaché is away on leave in Sweden and while your Naval Attaché is here for consultation. Unless you see valid objection please arrange for Captain B.C. to travel by the plane which brings your Naval Attaché to the United Kingdom. Passages are being arranged here.

41

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 3969
22 JUL 1941
49

Registry Number } N 3969/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) to Mr. Warner

No.

Dated 18th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 22nd July, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Situation in Sweden.

Comments generally on the situation, mentioning that his United States colleague has left for three months' leave in Washington.

Last Paper.

N 3717

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft. Sir R. Campbell Washington from Mr Warner.

aug 1st

(*Minutes.*)

Perhaps we could convey to the Americans a hint of the points raised in par. 3.

N. Am. Dep. for obs.

E. Collier 23.7.41.

Mr. Collier (par. 4.) *

I have seen in another paper that the new arrivals at the Norwegian Legation in Stockholm are to be allowed to stay as private individuals & that in fact they may be able to do a good deal as the Legation.+

Prof. 23/7

* M. Lie confirms that this is so. He discussed the whole position with Mr Mallet this morning. L. C. August 1st.

There

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
HG 12/8	17/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 4218

There can be no harm
in asking W'ton whether They
think a hint can be dropped
without risk of offending the
Americans. The last line of
Mr. Mallet's remarks wld.
provide a good introduction

C.A.King 26.7

Draft submitted.

E.L.Gatti
J.8.41.

Enclosure from
British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
18th July, 1941.

N 3969

22 JUL 1941

My dear Christopher,

I have to thank you for several letters which have arrived by to-day's bag some of which I have found most interesting.

I shall not burden you with a long letter now because I am looking forward to seeing you quite soon and having a good talk about everything.

Nearly everyone I know is now away from Stockholm on holiday and it is not easy to pick up much gossip, but I gather that the Germans have been quite quiet lately and there is no trace of immediate anxiety in official circles here. The Foreign Minister is off for a holiday next week but the Prime Minister will be back and I shall try to see him before I come over. My American colleague has just left for three months' leave in Washington. I hope he will really come back because he is a good colleague. I sometimes wish however that he had a rather larger staff and that the State Department's policy was to do more propaganda. American opinion counts for a great deal here and Swedes as a whole are very sensitive to American criticism.

I am sorry that there appears to have been a hitch about the recognition of the new members of the Norwegian Legation who arrived here by aeroplane last week. My Norwegian colleague never consulted me on the subject or I would have warned him to make sure how matters stood before letting them come out here. As he has never asked me to support him in getting the Swedish Government to allow them to stay I assume that he thinks the case hopeless. From what Boheman told me not long ago I gather that Bull and the Heads of other Missions from occupied territories had agreed to Boheman's suggestion that there should be no replacements on their staffs in future. If this is the case Bull obviously is not in a strong position to protest, but it seems rather a pity that he should ever have agreed to it.

Lovely hot weather here lately and I have managed to get a fair amount of fresh air and exercise.

Yours ever,

Victor Mallet

C.F.A.Warner, Esq.,
Foreign Office.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N3969/378/42

M.L.C.

Draft

Sir R. Campbell
Washington

from
Mr Warner

N. American
Dept. d.d.

E.O.C.
8/8.

OUT FILE

11a
52

11 Aug 1961.

My Dear Ronnie

You may be interested in some remarks made by Victor Mallet in a letter he wrote from Stockholm in mid July:

[Insert Mr Mallet's letter para 3 from "My American colleague..... to American criticism"]

It would be useful, I think, if a suitable opportunity arises, if a hint could be dropped to the Americans on these lines.

Sad.

Keep well & enjoy yourself.

Yours ever

(Sd.) Christopher Warner

OUT FILE 53

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(N 3969/378/42). 11th August, 1941.

My Dear Ronnie

You may be interested in some remarks made by Victor Mallet in a letter he wrote from Stockholm in mid July:

> "My American colleague has just left for "three months' leave in Washington. I hope he "will really come back because he is a good "colleague. I sometimes wish however that he had "a rather larger staff and that the State "Department's policy was to do more propaganda. "American opinion counts for a great deal here and "Swedes as a whole are very sensitive to American "criticism."

It would be useful should a suitable opportunity arise, if a hint could be dropped to the Americans on these lines.

Keep well & enjoy yourself.

Yr ever.

(Sd) Christopher Warner

Sir Ronald Campbell, K.C.M.G., C.B.
Washington.

42

54

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 4218

-2 AUG 1941

Registry Number N 4218/378/42.

FROM Admiralty

No. M.05366/41.

Dated 30th July, 1941.

Received in Registry 2nd Aug. 1941.

N: Sweden.

Visit of Captain Bold-Christmas to the United Kingdom.

Refers to Admiralty letter of 26th April N 1847/378/42). Suggests that when Captain Boldt-Christmas arrives in the United Kingdom he should be met by a representative of the Foreign Office; expenses will be paid from Naval funds.

Also refers to Admiralty letter of 8th July to Ministry of Information (N 3554/378/42) and encloses copy of letter dated 10/7 from M. of I.

Last Paper.

N 3969

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

D/F. Sovereign Hospitality Fund

8/ adlty (Lord Dunluce) Aug 22

M of I (Mr. Kenney) Aug 23

D/F adlty Aug. 22

(*Minutes.*)

c.c. ✓ for obs

J.B. 7.8.41.

Accommodation for "distinguished foreigners" coming to London at our request would be arranged and paid for by H. Govt. Hospitality Fund (Treasury Chambers). I suggest that they be asked to arrange about this case.

Y. Jamison

5/8/41

as he comes here solely to write about naval affairs, surely the Admiralty should arrange about meeting him.

E. Cadle

9.8.41.

AG

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
AG 23/8	AG 21/8/41.

Next Paper.

N 4923

20817 F.O.P.

Draft abandoned.

As the arrangements were made by us,
I think we should write to the
Good Hospitality Fund and explain
matters.

E.O.C.
#18/8.

L.P.—No. 8.

Any further communication should be addressed to—

The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London, S.W.1

Admiralty, S.W.1. 56

~~30th July,~~ *1941.*

quoting "M.05366/41 on the outside of the envelope as well as in the text.

N 4218
-2 AUG 1941

37

File. 378/42

SECRET.

Sir,

I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to refer to their letter of the 26th April (M.05366/41) concerning the visit of Captain Boldt-Christmas to this country and to say that they assume that since this officer is coming to England at the invitation of H.M. Government he will not be called upon to meet his own expenses.

2. The question also arises whether he should be met on arrival. If so, I am to suggest that it would be convenient if he were met by a representative of the Foreign Office and if the Foreign Office would arrange for his accommodation in London. Expenditure involved in travelling and subsistence in connection with visits arranged by the Admiralty could be accepted as a charge on naval funds.

3. I am also to refer to Admiralty letter dated 8th July to the Ministry of Information - a copy of which was sent to the Foreign Office - enquiring whether the Minister had any suggestions to offer in connection with the visit, and to enclose a copy of the Ministry's reply.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

J.A. Milligan

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

H.

COPY.

57

N.91/45/10.

Ministry of
Information,
Malet Street,
W.C.1.

10th July, 1941.

Dear Sir,

Ref. M.05466/41.

If Captain Boldt-Christmas after seeing Naval Establishments etc., wishes to examine other aspects of the War effort, we shall be very glad to help him. Perhaps the Admiralty will kindly put Captain Boldt-Christmas in touch with us at the end of his visit, so that we may discuss these matters with him?

Yours faithfully,

(sd).

JOHN JOBSON.
Tours Section,
NEWS DIVISION.

G.A.C. Witheridge Esq.,
Admiralty,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N.4218/378/42

E.G.C.

Draft

The Secretary,
Government
Hospitality Fund.

Copy Admiralty
under cover
Lord Dunwich

Copy Ministry of
Information under
cover Mr. Kenney.

21a
58

OUT F.LE FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

22nd August, 1941.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to inform you that, at the instance of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, an invitation has been extended by this department through His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm to Captain Boldt-Christmas, a retired Swedish naval officer, to visit this country for the purpose of studying some of the activities of His Majesty's Navy, with a view to his writing articles on the subject in the Swedish ~~papers~~. Captain Boldt-Christmas, who at one time was Naval Attaché to the Swedish Legation in London, is known for his Anglophile sentiments and for the facility of his pen.

2. Captain Boldt-Christmas is expected to arrive in this country from Sweden by air very shortly, although the exact date cannot as yet be stated.

3. It is suggested that during his stay in this country he should be provided with suitable accommodation and should not be called upon to meet his own expenses. Expenditure involved in travelling and subsistence in connection with visits arranged by the Admiralty will be accepted as a charge on naval funds.

E.D.C.
25/8.

(sa) C.F.A. Warner

N 4218/373/42.

59

FOREIGN OFFICE.
S.W.1.
22nd August, 1941.

OUT FILE

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to inform you that, at the instance of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, an invitation has been extended by this Department through His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm to Captain Boldt-Christmas, a retired Swedish naval officer, to visit this country for the purpose of studying some of the activities of His Majesty's Navy, with a view to his writing articles on the subject in the Swedish press. Captain Boldt-Christmas, who at one time was Naval Attaché to the Swedish Legation in London, is known for his Anglophile sentiments and for the facility of his pen.

2. Captain Boldt-Christmas is expected to arrive in this country from Sweden by air very shortly, although the exact date cannot as yet be stated.

3. It is suggested that during his stay in this country he should be provided with suitable accommodation and should not be called upon to meet his own expenses. Expenditure involved in travelling and subsistence in connexion with visits arranged by the Admiralty will be accepted as a charge on naval funds.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(sd) C.F.A. Warner

The Secretary,
Government Hospitality Fund.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N4218/378/42
M.I.C.

Draft.
Admiralty,

OUT FILE

60

22nd Aug., 1941.

Sir,

With ref. to Admiralty
letter M05366/41 of
30th July regarding the
visit of Captain Boldt-
Christmas to this country
I am to inform you that
the Government
Hospitality Fund is
to arrange and
pay for his accommodation.

2. I am to add that,
as Capt Boldt-Christmas
is coming to this country
in order to study & write
on naval matters only,
it would seem most
appropriate

he is bringing
this visit to the
notice of

appropriate if he were met on arrival by a naval officer ~~acde tech~~ rather than by a representative of this department.

E.O.G.
2/8.

(Sa) C.F.A. Warner

61

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

N 4218/378/42. 62

OUT FILE S.W.1.

22nd August, 1941.

Sir,

With reference to Admiralty letter M 05366/41 of 30th July regarding the visit of Captain Boldt-Christmas to this country, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to inform you that he is bringing this visit to the notice of the Government Hospitality Fund and is requesting them to arrange and pay for his accommodation.

2. I am to add that, as Captain Boldt-Christmas is coming to this country in order to study and write on naval matters only, it would seem most appropriate if he were met on arrival by a naval officer rather than by a representative of this department.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(sd) G. A. Warner

The Secretary
of the Admiralty.

43

1941

N

SWEDEN

63

N 4923

31 AUG 1941

Registry Number } N 4923/378/42

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Montagu Pollock,
(Stockholm).

No. 69 Saving en clair

Dated 26th August, 1941.

Received in Registry } 31st August, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Swedish press comment on Prime Minister's speech.

Reports that there is little comment so far in the Swedish press on Prime Minister's broadcast speech of 24th August, but it is pointed out that Persia must have been in Prime Minister's mind when he declared that nothing must stand in the way of help to the Soviet Union. "Nya Dagligt Allehanda" observed that Prime Minister made it clear that the Eight Point Declaration was not a final definition of war aims.

Last Paper.

Mr 4218

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

1.9.41.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

11/9/41.

Next Paper.

N4935

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

N 4923

31 AUG 1941

64

[En clair] DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Montagu Pollock
No. 69 Saving
26th August, 1941.

D. (By bag) 26th August, 1941.
R. 4.50 p.m. 30th August, 1941.

ddddddd

There is little comment so far in the Swedish press on Prime Minister's broadcast speech of 24th August. This may be due partly to an impression that Mr. Churchill revealed nothing new and partly to the news from Persia. It is however pointed out that Persia must have been in Prime Minister's mind when he declared that nothing must stand in the way of help to Russia.

"Nya Dagligt Allehanda" observes that Prime Minister made it clear that the Eight Point Declaration was not a final definition of war aims.

31 AUG
F.O. REGISTRY

44

1941

N

SWEDEN

65

N 4935

1 SEP 1941

Registry Number } N 4935/378/42

FROM Government Hospitality Fund

N G.H.F. 2271

Dated 30th August, 1941

Received in Registry } 1st September, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Visit of Captain Bold-Christmas to the United Kingdom

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 22nd August (F 4218/378/42).

Approve suggestion that Captain Bold-Christmas should be treated as a guest of His Majesty's Government for a period of 14 days during his stay in England, and give sanction for cost of his accomodation etc. to be a charge against Government. Hospitality.

Last Paper.

N4923

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Sadler (Ld. Dunmore)
M. of I. (Mr Kenney)
Sept. 2

(*Minutes.*)

Copies Admiralty i.c. Lord Dunmore,
& M. of I., i.c. Mr. Kenney.

1.9.41.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

10/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 5512

4155/48/42

Visit of Capt Bolst-Christmas.

Capt Brooking, admiralty, tells me that Capt. B-C does not expect any hospitality.

I have informed Sir E. Crackshaw, who is aware of it that has been in touch with Capt. B-C.

The latter proposes to stay here a long time, ie. several months.

The upshot is that the Govt Hosp. Fund will pay his expenses for a fortnight & no more.

E. Cadbe.
4.9.41.

CFTW
5/9.

The above minute was the result of an enquiry of mine, based on a telephone message from Sir E. Crackshaw who did not then know that Capt B-C. expected

A Sept. 3rd

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

67

Expected no hospitality. Nor
did Capt. Denham. N.A from
Stockholm, who has been
seeing him tell me this. I
suppose it is all major.
M. Gyllenhaal was attached to Sp. 4/9
we did do.

CPW
5/9.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

N 68

2C

Telegraphic Address: "HOSPITALITY, PARL, LONDON."
Telephone No.: WHITEHALL 1481.

All communications should be addressed to the—
SECRETARY,
and the following reference quoted:—

G.H.F.2271

GOVERNMENT HOSPITALITY FUND,
TREASURY CHAMBERS,
WHITEHALL,
Great George Street
S.W.1.

30th August, 1941

4935
SEP 1941

Sir,

I am directed by the Minister in Charge, Government Hospitality, to say in reply to your letter of the 22nd August, that he approves the suggestion made by Mr. Secretary Eden that Captain Boldt-Christmas, a retired Swedish naval officer, shall be treated as a guest of His Majesty's Government for a period of 14 days during his stay in England.

2. Lord Reith accordingly gives sanction for the cost of his accommodation etc. to be a charge against Government Hospitality.

3. The Minister notes that any expenditure involved in travelling and subsistence in connexion with visits arranged by the Admiralty will be accepted as a charge on naval funds.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

W.S. Stanhope

The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office.

3

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N5512/G 69

22 SEP 1941

N5512/~~301~~/378/42

Mr Mallet
Stockholm

Tel: No: 572
Dated: 21/9
Received: 22/9

Aircraft for Sweden

For Air Mg. from a.a. (No. A388).
Refers to his memo W.D. 2457/41. Minister of War stresses great need for fighter aircraft.

Last Paper.

N 1191 ~~301~~/63

References.

file 131/G. (N5970/42).

(Minutes.)

Copies being sent to Chiefs of Staff & to Mr. Sporborg. ~~Sir~~ Dill.

E. Calle
22.9.41.

This tel., and No. 571 (N5511/G - attached) will have to be considered at the meeting which I understand is to be called to consider the questions raised in private Stockholm tels. on German-Swedish relations

G.V. Cooke.
22/9.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copied Col Hollis
C.O.S.
Mr Sporborg (M.E.W.) 22/9

(Action completed.)

AZ 2411/2.

(Index.)

A

Next Paper.

See 2691/2102

I am having a meeting this afternoon with Sir William Brown, Ministry of Supply, Sir C. Hambro and Mr. Sporborg, in order to consider what measures can be taken to expedite the rubble operation in every ...

every way possible. At the same time we will draw up a paper, for the information of the Chiefs of Staff, showing the nature and importance of this operation from the point of view of the highly important material which we hope to obtain by this means from Sweden.

O.V. Sargent

Sept. 23rd, 1941.

I shd be glad to see the result of your meeting. I do not know myself when it has been contemplated to speak "Rubble". It might be well to do it as soon as possible while Germany is still heavily engaged in Russia.

Cabinet yesterday instd Chiefs of Staff to examine this matter in all its aspects.

AB.

Sept. 23. 1941.

As a result of the meeting referred to above Mr. Sporborg is drawing up a memo. on the present position of Rubble in all its bearings for submission to the Chiefs of Staff.

E.O.C.

24/9.

N5512 22 SEP 1941 G 71 N

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET).

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet
No. 572
21st September, 1941

D. 1.10 a.m. 21st September, 1941
R. 5.45 a.m. 22nd September, 1941

a.a.a.a.a.a.a.a

Following for Air Ministry from Air Attaché A388 September 21st.

Further to my memorandum W.D. 245/41. I made courtesy call on Minister of War today who without ado stressed great need to obtain fighter aircraft and almost begged me to discuss the position with the Chief of Air Force and the Chief of Air Staff and made immediate appointments for me to see them.

Both these officers very plainly expressed the dangerous situation of Sweden and urged the vital need for more fighter aircraft. In this connexion see His Majesty's Minister's telegrams 568 and 570 to the Foreign Office. As to delivery it is suggested to send Swedish pilots to England as required.

N5467/31/9

N5499/31/9

An alternative suggestion made to me later today by Captain Cornelius at the instigation of General Nordenskiold was the possibility of obtaining fighters through British medium from the United States by direct shipment. This source of neutral supply would be less likely to aggravate the present tense situation or precipitate action.

I informed Cornelius that the Lease and Loan conditions are likely to prevent such negotiations but I promised to convey these tentative proposals to you. It must be clearly understood that these proposals have not (repeat not) been made officially yet.

[Copies sent to A.C.A.S.I.]

22 SEP 1941 REGISTRY

FP 12 1941	Sweden NORTHERN	N6475 11 NOV 1941 G

N6475 / ~~1937~~ 6.
378/42

Conversation (T. Wallenberg Sir O. Sargent)

Dated Nov 6th.

Rec'd Nov 11th.

Anglo - Swedish Relations.

Reports a conversation with T. Wallenberg in which he was warned about Anglo-Swedish relations in regard to the Swedish attitude towards the Norwegian ships, & their policy of appeasement towards Germany. T. Wallenberg complained that the M.E.W. were being very uncompromising in the negotiations for fixing fresh quotas for Swedish exports via Gothenburg.

Last Paper.
N6027/6027/42

References.
N6418/131/30
N.6229/~~1108/G~~ 12/42

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)
Tel. to Stockholm 672. 8/11.
Copied. Sir C. Hambro. Sir W. Brown. M/Supply. Sir J. Weston M/W.T. Sir J. Wheeler M/Supply. Sir J. Sporborg M.E.W. Sir J. Jarrett Admy. Col Ismay W.C.O. 10/11
Tel. to Stockholm 680. 13/11.
Usual distribution 14/11.

(Minutes.)

See within. E.B. 11.11.41.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
EJ 12/11	N

Next Paper.
(N6545) 378/42

N6475 / G
14 NOV 1941

73

Ends (Finnish already sent up for ends.)
GRD 10/11

When M. Wallenberg came to see me yesterday about Finland I took the opportunity of warning him that we were anxious about Anglo-Swedish relations, which up till now had been so excellent. We had every reason to complain of their recent behaviour with regard to the Norwegian ships lying in Swedish ports which we had chartered and which we wished to take away. The Swedish Government, after assuring us that they would not prevent us from exercising our rights in this respect, had now put every sort of difficulty in our way, in order no doubt to placate the German Government. The Germans had been able to put up Norwegian men of straw to bring actions in the Courts to dispute our right to the ships. We had been prevented so far from pleading governmental immunity in the Courts, and now, worst of all, the Swedish Government had suddenly rushed a law through Parliament which had enabled them to arrest all these ships before the actions before the Courts had been completed.

We were bound to contrast this display of most unbenevolent neutrality with the benevolent attitude displayed by the Swedish Government and Foreign Office when the earlier lot of Norwegian ships sailed from Swedish ports at the beginning of last year.

It looked as though the Swedish Government had decided to adopt a policy of appeasement towards Germany at the expense of Great Britain. The first sign that the Swedish Government might be embarking on this policy was when they allowed German troops across Swedish territory. We now had the case of these Norwegian ships and we could not but expect that shortly the Swedish Government would be forced step by step to yield to further German demands at our expense.

M. Wallenberg was, I think, prepared for this criticism of his Government's recent behaviour and was inclined to be apologetic in the matter of the Norwegian ships. In particular he attempted to excuse the Swedish Foreign Office from having had any part in the recent legislation. This had been carried through by the Ministry of Justice without the knowledge of the Foreign Office. The Government had long since intended to legislate in this sense, but M. Wallenberg hardly attempted to deny that the present moment had been chosen for doing so in order to hamstring our attempts to remove the Norwegian ships. The justification, of course, for trying to stop us from carrying through our Operation Performance during the present period of the war was that they felt sure that Hitler would at once retaliate by cutting off the Gothenburg traffic, and this at a time when the imports into Sweden by this route were of the utmost importance to Sweden if she were to put up a good show when eventually the German attack materialised.

For the rest, M. Wallenberg urged that the sympathies of the Swedish people and the policy of his Government remained unchanged, and that they were resolved to resist if and when Hitler attempted to occupy Sweden. I accepted this assurance, but pointed out that that being so it was folly for them to delude themselves into thinking that if they submitted to Hitler's demands during the present phase, that would in the least influence his decision when he had once made up his mind that strategic necessity required him to occupy Sweden. On the other hand, once the Swedish Government had embarked on a policy of appeasement, as each successive German demand was made it

would ...

would become more difficult for them to refuse it. This was what we were afraid was going to happen unless the Swedish Government pulled themselves together now and faced the facts.

Before leaving M. Wallenberg said that the M.E.W. were being very uncompromising in the negotiations he was carrying on with them for fixing fresh quotas for Swedish imports via Gothenburg. This was a question which could not be treated merely on a statistical basis, as proposed by the M.E.W. It raised a vital political issue, inasmuch as the maintenance of the flow of imports via Gothenburg was essential if Sweden was to assert her independence in the face of German pressure and blackmail. If the M.E.W. would not recognise this fact he might have to appeal to the Foreign Office in order that the political aspect of this question should receive proper consideration.

M. Wallenberg made no reference to the possibility of Sweden obtaining military supplies or military assistance from Great Britain in order to enable her better to withstand a German onslaught.

Nor did he ask to see either the Secretary of State or Sir A. Cadogan. He merely remarked that he was prepared to repeat the plea he had put to me on behalf of Finland (see separate record) to anyone else who cared to hear him.

O.G. Sargent

November 6th, 1941.

I see no reason why we should press M.E.W. at present.

A.E. Nov 8th

N 6475/1037/G

/G

Top copy under submission with Supporting Jacket to Cabinet.

Eadle Jean 75

CAB 9/207 N

When M. Wallenberg came to see me yesterday about Finland I took the opportunity of warning him that we were anxious about Anglo-Swedish relations, which up till now had been so excellent. We had every reason to complain of their recent behaviour with regard to the Norwegian ships lying in Swedish ports which we had chartered and which we wished to take away. The Swedish Government, after assuring us that they would not prevent us from exercising our rights in this respect, had now put every sort of difficulty in our way, in order no doubt to placate the German Government. The Germans had been able to put up Norwegian men of straw to bring actions in the Courts to dispute our right to the ships. We had been prevented so far from pleading governmental immunity in the Courts, and now, worst of all, the Swedish Government had suddenly rushed a law through Parliament which had enabled them to arrest all these ships before the actions before the Courts had been completed.

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For the rest, M. Wallenberg urged that the sympathies of the Swedish people and the policy of his Government remained unchanged, and that they were resolved to resist if and when Hitler attempted to occupy Sweden. I accepted this assurance, but pointed out that that being so it was folly for them to delude themselves into thinking that if they submitted to Hitler's demands during the present phase, that would in the least influence his decision when he had once made up his mind that strategic necessity required him to occupy Sweden. On the other hand, once the Swedish Government had embarked on a policy of appeasement, as each successive German demand was made it

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(Sd) O. G. SARGENT.

November 6th, 1941.

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(Sd) O. G. SARGENT.

November 6th, 1941.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No;
N6475/1108/G

11.35
8/11/41 79

November 1941

Despatched *M.*

Draft. JWDIV

Mr. Mallet
Stockholm

Telegram.

No: 672
8/11

Dept. Secret

Copies to usual people Nov. 10

~~Halifax~~ asked to see Sir A. Cadogan who suggested that he shd.

9.15 P

MOST SECRET

IMPORTANT

Your tel. No.668 Nov.7th: Operation "Performance"

Earlier this week M. Wallenberg called on Sir O. Sargent on Nov.5th ~~on subject~~ of Finland when ~~latter~~ he took opportunity of warning him that we were anxious about Anglo-Swedish relations which up to now had been so excellent. We had every reason to complain of Swedish behaviour with regard to Norwegian ships. Swedish Govt. after assuring us that they would not prevent us exercising our rights had put every sort of difficulty in the way in order no doubt to placate Germans.

He came & spoke to Sir O. Sargent

2. This most unbenevolent neutrality contrasted with earlier benevolent attitude to Operation "Rubble". It looked as though Swedish Govt. had decided to adopt a policy of appeasement towards Germany at expense of Great Britain. Permission for German division to cross Swedish territory had been followed by present case; we must expect that Swedish Govt. would shortly yield to further German demands at our expense.

3. M. Wallenberg was inclined to be apologetic. In particular he pleaded that Swedish My. of Justice had carried through recent offending legislation without knowledge of My. of F.A. He hardly attempted to deny that timing was intended to hamstring operation. In justification of Swedish action he used usual argument

about/

about stoppage of Gothenburg traffic. He urged that Swedish sympathies and policy remained unchanged and that Sweden would resist German attempt at occupation. It was pointed out to him that this being so it was folly for the Swedes to think that submission to German demands during the present phase would influence Hitler's decision when strategic necessity required him to occupy Sweden. On the other hand once policy of appeasement was adopted each successive demand became more difficult to refuse. We feared this must happen unless Swedish Govt. decided now to face the facts.

4. M. Wallenberg spoke of uncompromising attitude of M.E.W. in negotiations ~~at present in progress.~~ for fresh quotas. For your own information, it is proposed to try effect of such an attitude upon Swedish behaviour in regard to Norwegian ships.

5. Monsieur W. made no reference to possibility of Sweden obtaining ~~necessary~~ military supplies or assistance from this country.

6. You should conform your attitude to above and in general for the present adopt markedly cooler tone than heretofore in all official dealings with Swedish authorities.

CRAIG 8/11.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

81

N /) /G.

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET).

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 672.
8th November, 1941.

D. 11.55 p.m. 8th November, 1941.

JJJJJJ

MOST SECRET.

I M P O R T A N T.

Your telegram No. 668 [November 7th: Operation "Performance"].

Early this week M. Wallenberg asked to see Sir A. Cadogan, who suggested that he should call on Sir O. Sargent. He came on November 5th and spoke of Finland when Sir O. Sargent took opportunity of warning him that we were anxious about Anglo-Swedish relations which up to now had been so excellent. We had every reason to complain of Swedish behaviour with regard to Norwegian ships. Swedish Government after assuring us that they would not prevent us exercising our rights had put every sort of difficulty in the way in order no doubt to placate Germans.

2. This most unbenevolent neutrality contrasted with earlier benevolent attitude to Operation "Rubble". It looked as though Swedish Government had decided to adopt a policy of appeasement towards Germany at expense of Great Britain. Permission for German division to cross Swedish territory had been followed by present case; we must expect that Swedish Government would shortly yield to further German demands at our expense.

3. M. Wallenberg was inclined to be apologetic. In particular he pleaded that Swedish Ministry of Justice had carried through recent offending legislation without knowledge of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He hardly attempted to deny that timing was intended to hamstring operation. In justification of Swedish action he used usual argument about stoppage of Gothenburg traffic. He urged that Swedish sympathies and policy remained unchanged and that Sweden would resist German attempt at occupation. It was pointed out to him that this being so it was folly for the Swedes to think that submission to German demands during the present phase would influence Hitler's decision when strategic necessity required him to occupy Sweden. On the other hand once policy of appeasement was adopted each successive demand became more difficult to refuse. We feared this must happen unless Swedish Government decided now to face the facts.

4. M. Wallenberg spoke of uncompromising attitude of Ministry of Economic Warfare in negotiations for fresh quotas. For your own information, it is proposed to try effect of such an attitude upon Swedish behaviour in regard to Norwegian ships.

5. M. Wallenberg made no reference to possibility of Sweden obtaining military supplies or assistance from this country.

6. You should conform your attitude to above and in general for the present adopt markedly cooler tone than heretofore in all official dealings with Swedish authorities.
[INDIV.]

N 6413/131
6475

Mr Caffle

Keep with

uncorrected 82

MR. MARCUS WALLENBERG asked again to see me to-day and I received him this afternoon.

He referred at once to the shipping difficulty and I left him in no doubt of our view of the behaviour of his Government in this matter.

Although he tried to defend his Government, he admitted frankly that he could quite understand that it had produced a bad impression here. In fact, later in the conversation, he admitted that he had heard of the introduction of the Swedish legislation on the morning before his departure and he had at once been to see the Minister for Foreign Affairs to point out that this would embarrass him very seriously in his negotiations in London and to obtain from him the assurance that while he was here no further action would be taken to make his task still more difficult.

(INTLD.) A.C.

12th November, 1941.

Ref. attached. I submit off tel. to Mr. Mallet.

sent for despatch Clauke 13.11.41.

13/11

Registry No. N. 6475/131/G.

E.G.C.

Draft.
Mr. Mallet,
Stockholm.

Telegram.
No...680
13/11
Cypher.....
IND IV

Departmental ~~Secret~~

(Usual distribution.)
14th

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,
November 1941
83

~~XXXX~~

~~XXX~~.

Important. *Despatched* M.

~~Secret.~~

~~Your~~ my telegram No. 672 November 8th:

Operation Performance 7.

M. Wallenberg was received at his request on November 12th by Sir A. Cadogan who left him in no doubt of ~~the~~ our view ~~of H.M.G.~~ of the behaviour of the Swedish Government with regard to the Norwegian ships.

2. Although he tried to defend his Government, M. Wallenberg admitted ~~frankly~~ that he could ~~quite~~ understand that ~~it~~ (their action) had produced a bad impression here. ~~In fact, later in the conversation,~~ He (later) admitted that ~~he had heard~~ (hearing) of the introduction of the Swedish legislation ~~on~~ the morning before his departure ~~and~~ he had at once been to see the Minister for Foreign Affairs to point out that this would embarrass him very seriously in his negotiations in London and to obtain from him ~~the~~ assurance that while he was here no further action would be taken to make his task still more difficult.

GRDS
13/XI.

6.15 p 13.11.41

84

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

N. /151/G.

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET)

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM

No.680 D. 7.0 p.m. 15th November, 1941.
15th November, 1941.

[ ] [ ] [ ]

IMPORTANT

My telegram No.672 [November 8th: Operation Performance].

M. Wallenberg was received at his request on November 12th by Sir A. Cadogan who left him in no doubt of our view of the behaviour of the Swedish Government with regard to the Norwegian ships.

2. Although he tried to defend his Government, M. Wallenberg admitted that he could understand that their action had produced a bad impression here. He later admitted that hearing of the introduction of the Swedish legislation the morning before his departure he had at once been to see the Minister for Foreign Affairs to point out that this would embarrass him very seriously in his negotiations in London and to obtain from him assurance that while he was here no further action would be taken to make his task still more difficult.

[INDIV]

Sweden

NORTHERN

N6545 / G

12 NOV 1941

X 85

F.O. 13

1941

N 6545 / ~~H 02/6~~ 1037/378/42.

17 Wallis Stockholm

674

Dated Nov 11th

Rec'd Nov 12th

Anglo - Swedish Relations

Refs F.O. tel 672 (N6475/6).

Report of conversation with Secretary General, who had received tels from the Swedish Minister & M. Wallenberg. Refs also Operation Performance (file 131/6).

Last Paper.

N 6475/378/42

References.

N6355/548/42.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Usual distribution (Personal) 13/11.

Capt Duff Cooper 14/11.

(Minutes.)

Usual distribution being given.

While this shows that our representations and attitude have reached their mark, M. Boheman's distress and pained surprise look very hypocritical.

The refusal of German requests referred in Par. 2 is satisfactory. M. Boheman manages to get in a dig about leakage & publicity during the Russo-Finnish peace efforts and uses this in order to withhold full information from Mr. Mallet!

Par. 3 does not convince me, in face of the facts. Just as the Gothenburg magistrate is admittedly favourably disposed to us; the Appeal Court, after inspecting our note & the German note & the Swedish govt, seems to have taken the line most opposed to our interests - which coincides not only with [illegible] Swedish, but also with German interests.

(Action completed.)

AJ 24/12.

(Index.)

A

Next Paper.

N. 6554/G 378/42

interests. There are many ways of "influencing" a Court, & it is even possible that the judge is predisposed in favour of safeguarding what are confessedly the interests of the Soviet Soviet ad hoc legislation has made certain that he, not the magistrate, should decide! Par. 4. does not indicate that Mr. Mallet took a really strong line. The last sentence on pg 1 shows that the Swedish Govt fear (not merely interference with the Gothenburg Traffic, but) an actual German attack (here described as local) if they committed what Ribbentrop characterised as "a hostile act", i.e. did not prevent our ships from leaving. The first sentence on page two must mean "as they had always told us" recently, for in May they acquiesced in the proposed operation & granted export permits ad hoc, thereby becoming almost participants in it — as they virtually were in "Rubble". (I am having the phrase from "to facilitate" checked). As regards the penultimate sentence, I think we should ask Mr. Mallet to enquire how the Swedes could have stopped what they themselves had described to us as a lawful operation; pointing out that what we particularly dislike is their preventing the operation in practice, while professing not to interfere with it, & after having acquiesced in it. Where then is their good faith? (See final sentence).

Par 5. is childish.

E. Cable
13.11.41.

I.....

I agree generally with Mr. Cable. I think this telegram, and what I have heard from Mr. Pollock, Mrs. Victor Mallet and Sir C. Hambro of the effect of our attitude towards M. Wallenberg, shows that our tactics are making some impression.

M. Boheman is very adroit and seems to have been skilful in this interview, but I do not think we need be disturbed or moved by what he said. He would have been much more impressive if he had not pleaded, so far as I know, quite legitimate publicity given by the U.S.Government to the Finnish business - after a long period of discretion even with us about it - as an excuse for not giving us details of the German demands on Sweden. If he is to be taken at his word, however, the Swedes are standing up pretty well, under considerable German pressure. There is no reason to suppose that they will stand up less well, now that they know we think them in danger of appeasing the Germans and that we are dissatisfied with their treatment of us. The marked passage in paragraph 4 evades the question completely, since the naval dispositions referred to, so far from facilitating the escape of the ships and being likely to prevent a Swedish clash with the Germans, in our view make the operation almost impossible by making it public and merely increase the chances of a Swedo-German incident.

As regards influence on the Courts, I agree that M. Boheman's arguments do not wash. We shall be able to judge better when we get from Stockholm the report which has been telegraphed for on the latest judgment in the Appeal Court, which from a Reuter account appears to the Legal Advisers even more deliberately obstructive to our interests than the preceding one.

As regards a reply to Mr. Mallet, we must now take into consideration his telegram No. 676 in N 6549 /G (see minutes thereon).

CPAW.

13th November, 1941.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

88

N 6545

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET).

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet
No. 674.
11th November, 1941.

D. 12.55 a.m. 12th November, 1941.
R. 5.45 a.m. 12th November, 1941.

JJJJJJ

IMPORTANT.

MOST SECRET.

Your telegram No. 672. N 6475/G

I found the Secretary General today much distressed at the telegrams from the Swedish Minister and Wallenberg, parts of which he read to me.

W 6355/5/48/42

2. He said that he did not understand how His Majesty's Government could imagine that the Swedish Government were trying to appease the Germans. He wished to give me full details of the latest demand referred to in my telegram No. 647 which the Swedish Government had refused only last week. He dared not do so for fear of leakage and in this connexion referred to the manner in which State Department had made public, highly confidential interviews with Finnish Minister at Washington, to the grave embarrassment of Finnish Government. He did however tell me that the demands as a whole, if agreed to, would have been an even more serious concession than that of the transit of the division in June. They concerned not merely considerable transits between Norway and Finland and vice versa but also purchase in Sweden of immense quantities of warm clothing foot wear etc. for German troops in Finland "enough to clothe the whole of the Germans up there". All of this had been absolutely refused and the German Government were extremely annoyed. They also still expressed great annoyance at the Swedish Government's attitude regarding Norwegian ships at Gothenburg and were not at all satisfied to leave the matter to the Court of Law.

3. As regards the suggestion that Swedish Government were attempting to influence courts against us he again assured me that this was absolutely untrue. He felt that these suggestions came from our lawyer at Gothenburg who was well known for his political partisanship as partner in Segerstedts newspaper.

4. I was not at all forthcoming and reminded him of the manner in which the new legislation had been rushed through Riksdag and of the numerous local minor obstacles placed in our way in obtaining clearance of ships on two occasions. As regards legislation he repeated well known arguments. As regards clearance he said that the delays had not been excessive in view of the fact that the matter had to be referred to naval authorities. Swedish Government had what they considered absolutely first class information which led them to believe the German Government would attempt to seize the ships even in

Swedish/....

Swedish territorial waters and for this reason naval dispositions had to be made. He frankly admitted that the Swedish Government would prefer the operation not to take place as they had always told us, but if it must take place Swedish Government must surely be allowed to make their own plans to facilitate what they considered a dangerous situation. If Swedish Government had really intended to prevent the ships leaving in any circumstances there would have been other ways of doing so than to attempt to tinker with the Law Courts or administration of justice. The fact that they had not done this should prove their good faith in the matter.

5. Secretary General was very depressed and worried and said that it seemed that whatever Sweden did was always wrong. He had hoped for better understanding by His Majesty's Government.

INDIV.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group..... FO .....

Class ..... 371 .....

Piece ..... 29676 .....

Following document(s)*

retained in the Department of origin*

~~transferred to PRO Safe Room*~~

N6554/378/42

N6578/378/42

and closed until..... 2017 .....

*delete as necessary

Sweden

NORTHERN

N 6703 / G

21 NOV 1941

16 1941

90

N 6703 / ~~1102~~ 6.
1037
378/42

Th Mallet. Stockholm.
697.

Dated Nov 19th

Rec'd Nov 21st

Anglo-Swedish Relations

Refs F.O. tel 693 (N6553 4/6)

Th Mallet reports an interview with the Secretary general regarding H.M. Government's attitude towards the Swedish Government.

Last Paper.

N 6557 8/378/42

References.

N 6563 / 378/42.

N 6406 / 231 / 30

(Minutes.)

pp in dept Ry attached

(Print.)

Usual distribution being given.

There is a mystery about despo. No 128. It was supposed to have gone by bag on Nov. 10th. There was another bag on Nov. 13th. I am enquiring into this. (The bags & planes are still in Scotland, waiting for favourable weather!)

Mr. Mallet's approach to the main subject is now firmer. M. Boheman virtually admits that the Swedes have stood over the delay of the ships. If it is true that their fears have diminished, perhaps we shall see some results when M. Wahlenberg returns to Sweden. M. Boheman's aftermonent about the "Dicto" is precious little help now.

E. Cable
21. 11. 41.

(How disposed of.)

Usual distribution 21/11.

Tel. to Stockholm 700.

Copied Sir C. Hambro 24/11. 25/11

E.O. Coote
21/11.

M. Boheman is not very convincing

(Action completed.)

AJ 24/12

(Index.)

A

Next Paper.

Convincing, unless we are to
infer that he has himself
really been against the Swedish
Govt's recent opposition to "Performance"
all along.

As regards para. 6 of the tel.no,
we had assumed that Mr
Mallet wd. know Sir G. Binney's
very definite views on the
effect of the Swedish proposal
that there many shd. "Shepherd"
the Ships carrying out the
operation while in Swedish
waters. These views will be
found in para. 4 of Sir G. Binney's
tel. to Sir Cattambro in N 6172.
para. 4 of Mr. Mallet's tel. in
N 6302/G shows that he at any rate knew
of the Naval Attaché's not
dissimilar views. We had
better ensure that Mr. Mallet
keeps in close touch with Sir
G. Binney on this point.
Draft tel. herewith.

C.F.A. Warner
24/11.

Seen by Sir O. Sargent & sent
for despatch.

N6703
21 NOV 1941

92

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET)

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Mallet
No. 697
November 19th, 1941.

D. 1.15. a.m. 20th November, 1941.
R. 6.45. a.m. 20th November, 1941.

b b b b b b

IMPORTANT

MOST SECRET

Your telegram No.693. N6554/G.

I am grateful for guidance given therein which has enabled me better to understand what is in the mind of His Majesty's Government.

N6406/G 2. I propose to refrain from detailed comment until I have received your despatch No.128 which is presumably on its way.

3. Meanwhile I assure you that I lose no opportunity of rubbing in to the Swedish Government the gravity with which you view their behaviour, nor have I failed to contest their excuse for passing the offending legislation of which I feel the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are a good deal ashamed. In fact Boheman to-day told me that he personally was sorry that Dicto had not been able to sail recently as it would have afforded interesting test of German reactions.

4. When I saw him to-day I again told him that His Majesty's Government were incensed with the Swedish Government and that if the Swedish Government had all along intended to prevent ships from sailing, it would have been more honest to have told us so instead of to have tried to get credit from us for resisting German pressure. I now felt that the Swedish Government intended to stop ships by hook or crook even if litigation went in our favour. He absolutely denied this intention but admitted that delay between September, when German demands were made, and now had been valuable because he felt now that the danger of serious action by Germany was much less than then. Time had perhaps helped to cool down the Germans and what was more important German military difficulties in Russia were now much greater and he did not believe in Germany being able to attack Sweden for many months to come.

5. I then reiterated your views about immunity and stressed how gravely you would view any attempt by administrative action to delay or influence judgement of the courts. The Secretary General looked me full in the face and assured me most emphatically that he himself would never be a party to any such behaviour.

6.....

6. As regards paragraph 8 of your telegram under reference, I must admit that I had not previously reacted strongly to the Secretary General's arguments about neutral duties because I remembered that at the time of the "Rubble" expedition, we were glad to have Swedish escort in territorial waters, and quite recently Binney made point of insisting on naval escort for Newton from Malmö to Gothenburg. To-day I took up this question with the Secretary General [grp. om. ? who] was quite surprised that I should suggest that our ships be left to take their chance after leaving Gothenburg harbour and that if they were attacked in Swedish waters, it would be less embarrassing for Sweden if none of her warships were present. He felt at first that this suggestion if adopted, would be liable to criticism here as derogatory to Swedish national honour. A nation ought to defend its own territorial waters and neutral duties as well as neutral rights were involved. He said that he had imagined that an incident in Swedish waters in which the Swedish navy did not try to protect our merchant ships would call down the wrath of His Majesty's Government. If, however, His Majesty's Government really preferred that ships should be unescorted and would not afterwards cast the blame on Sweden, he realised that there was something to be said for the idea and he promised to discuss it with Naval staff and let me know his views later.

7. The general impression from my interview was that the Swedish Government are anxious to avoid getting worse into your bad books.

INDIV

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No;

N 6703/~~1108~~1037/G

C.F.A.W.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,

STOCKHOLM.

Telegram.

No. 700

(Cypher)

(dept. secret)

C/1040/m 24/11 94

November, 1941.

Despatched *M.*

MOST SECRET.

IMPORTANT.

Your tel. No. 697 [of the 20th Nov: operation "Performance"] paragraph 6.

Please consult Sir G. Binney on this. He expressed very definite view of hampering effect on operation of these restrictions in a telegram to Sir C. Hambro of the 25th October.

2. I notice from paragraphs 4 and 5 of your telegram No. 641 [of the 31st October] that Naval Attaché also considered Swedish proposals disadvantageous and that you mentioned the matter to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Secretary-General who agreed to speak to Swedish Naval Staff.

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

[CYPHER].

DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET)

95

(N 6705/1108/G)

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No: 700
November 24th,1941.

D. 10. 40 p.m. November 24th,1941.

11111

MOST SECRET

IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No. 697 [of the 20th November: operation "Performance"] paragraph 6.

Please consult Sir G. Binney on this. He expressed very definite view of hampering effect on operation of these restrictions in a telegram to Sir C. Hambro of the 25th October.

2. I notice from paragraphs 4 and 5 of your telegram No. 641 [of the 31st October] that Naval Attaché also considered Swedish proposals disadvantageous and that you mentioned the matter to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Secretary-General who agreed to speak to Swedish Naval Staff.

[INDIV].

51

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 6954
4 DEC 1941

96

Registry Number } N 6954/378/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet, Stockholm.

No. 494 (78/37/41) Confidential.

Dated 15th Nov.1941.

Received in Registry } 4th Dec.1941.

N:Sweden

Swedish confidence in British victory.

Transmits letter from M. Möller, Swedish Minister for Social Affairs to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security. This was delivered to His Majesty's Legation through a Swedish intermediary who indicated M. Möller's wish to send a personal message to Mr. Morrison expressing hope and confidence in a British victory. The Swedish intermediary was a close personal friend of M. Möller's who is without doubt the most pro-British member of the Swedish Government.

Last Paper.

N6703

References.

File 1218-1941
N31/31/1942

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft: Home Office
Dec. 11

(Minutes.)

Draft letter to Home Office submitted
A. H. B. Denfield
10/12.

A copy of the letter should be kept
H.O.C.
10/12

Now see letter from Mr. Peterson (H.O.) & dft. reply (N31/31/1942)

Cffrd
2/1.

(Action completed.)
EW 12/12

(Index.)
11 WE 22/12/41

Next Paper.

N 6996 (N31/31/42)

N

No. 494
(78/37/41)

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
15th November, 1941.

97

CONFIDENTIAL.

N 6954
4 DEC 1946

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from the Swedish Minister for Social Affairs to the Secretary of State for Home Affairs and Minister of Home Security.

2. This letter was delivered to His Majesty's Legation through a Swedish intermediary who indicated that Monsieur Möller had been anxious to send a personal message to Mr. Morrison expressing his hope and confidence in a British victory. Monsieur Möller felt unable however in view of his official position to send such a message in writing. He hoped that conveyed in this indirect way it would nevertheless be taken seriously.

3. The Swedish intermediary, whom I know slightly, is a close personal friend and collaborator of the Minister for Social Affairs and I have no reason to think that he has misrepresented Monsieur Möller who is without doubt the most pro-British member of the Swedish Government.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

98

COPY

Statsradet och Chefen für
Kungl, Socialdepartementet,
Stockholm, 12th October, 1941.

Dear Comrade,

Through the friendliness and courtesy of the British Government, the Swedish Government was enabled in September - October of this year to send Count Otto Cronstedt to Great Britain in order to study measures for the protection of the civil population in wartime.

I have now read Cronstedt's report and have discussed these questions with him personally, and I feel that his visit has been most fruitful. To me, of course, it was of particular interest to learn what he had to say about the measures for providing immediate assistance to bombed-out families - a system which has impressed me as having been built up in a most excellent and efficient way.

File R18

An official letter of thanks is being sent to the British Government. In addition, however, I should like very much to tell you personally how much we appreciate the very great held and friendliness shown to Cronstedt by the various British authorities and by you yourself, which made it possible for him to carry out his mission in a satisfactory manner.

As I have already said, Cronstedt's report is of very great interest to the Swedish authorities concerned. A careful study of the report shows, however, that it needs to be supplemented on various points of detail, so that the experiences it describes can be more fully acted upon in this country. And if there should be an opportunity in the near future of sending a small delegation of experts on certain matters - say two or three persons - I think that the Swedish Government would gratefully avail themselves of such a possibility.

I

The Rt.Hon.Herbert Morrison,
London.

I should like once more to thank you for your friendly assistance in this connection, and I send you and our comrades over there all good wishes.

Yours very sincerely,
(Sd.) GUSTAV MÖLLER.
Minister of Social Affairs.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.
N.6954/378/42

A. A. B. 3.
Draft.

Home Office

O.T.

OUT FILE 11th December 1941

100

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch received from H.M. Minister in Stockholm, in which and its enclosure, which is enclosed is a letter to the Minister of Home Security from M. Möller, Swedish Minister for Social Affairs, and to request that this letter may be handled the latter to his Excellency.

I.O.C.
10/12.

(Sd) C. F. A. Warner

OUT FILE 101

N 6954/378/42.

S.W.1.
11th December, 1941

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Eden to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister in Stockholm, in which is enclosed a letter to the Minister of Home Security from M. Möller, Swedish Minister for Social Affairs, and to request that this letter may be handed to Mr. Morrison.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(sd) C. F. A. Warner.

The Under-Secretary of State,
Home Office.

52

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 6996

5 DEC 1941

102

Registry Number N 6996/378/42

FROM Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm Legation) to

No. Mr. Warner.

Dated 5th Nov: 1941.

Received in Registry 5th Dec: 1941.

N : Sweden.

Successful talk to English Society by Mr. Mallet.

Gave talk at Upsala on present day conditions in England. Lunched with Rector Magnificus and dined with Professor of English. Went with him, Chancellor Undén and the Rector to the lecture hall which was crowded with half the Faculty and their wives and several hundred students. Was given tremendous ovation after lecture and gathered that general feeling in Upsala is intensely pro-British. Bottrall of the British Council was able to make many contacts there and as a result may be able to aid the University in obtaining books and periodicals.

Last Paper.

N 6984

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of*)

Copy. Mr. Warner's comps to Mr. Gould (M of I) Dec. 8

British Council Jan 7

Dft. Mr. Mallet (Stockholm) from Mr. Warner Jan. 5

(Sent by Mr. Guerney)

(Action completed.) Ent 8/1/42

(Index.) ICd 21/3/42

Next Paper.

N 7158

(*Minutes.*)

P. 1. Dept C. M. G-H 2.1.42.

Mr. Guerney See below K.G. 3/1

A. N. B. Ramsden 9/12.

S. Cable 9.12.

I think we might send Mr. Mallet a word of appreciation.

H. D. Cooke. 18/12

May the B. Council have a copy? All the information is of great interest to them, as their new representative Mr Bottrall was especially at Uppsala with Mr Mallet, but has apparently not yet had time to report on this visit. The Council are very anxious to know the attitude feeling in the Universities about things English.

K. T. Guerney 3/1

Make a copy of Mr Mallet's letter for Mr Guerney to send to the Council

Letter to Mr Mallet: see copy. 4/1.

17208 5/38 F.O.P.

Sent. K.G. 7/1

N 6996
5 DEC 1941

Copyright Nafsnitt
Mgt and
my comps.

British Legation,
Stockholm.
15th November, 1941

103

My Dear Christopher,

I went up to Upsala yesterday on the invitation of the English Society to give a talk about present day conditions in England. I started by lunching with the Rector Magnificus and met several of the Professors. I then dined with the Professor of English who had the Chancellor Undén and the Rector Magnificus to meet me and we went on at 8 o'clock to the lecture hall. The Society had launched out into hiring the biggest hall in the place with some trepidation in case it was not full, but it was crowded to overflowing and the audience included the Chancellor, the Rector Magnificus, about half the Faculty and their wives and several hundred male and female students, in all well over four hundred people. They listened with the closest attention for an hour and gave me quite an ovation at the end. I was particularly complimented by both Undén and the Rector and I had a feeling that it had been very well worth while. Afterwards we went on to supper and an informal dance at which more students were present than had ever happened before on such occasions and the organisers of the meeting were enormously gratified. From all that I gathered in Upsala the feeling there is intensely pro-British;

there

C.F.A.Warner Esq.,
Foreign Office.

there are said to be only three pro-German members out of a Faculty of eighty and the number of students attending the English Courses is increasing every day.

Bottrall of the British Council was with me and was able to make many valuable contacts and we hope that as a result he will be able to assist the University in obtaining a certain number of important books and periodicals which they badly need.

I hope you won't think I am blowing my own trumpet too much in telling you all this, but I felt that it was a compliment that Undén himself should have been present throughout the evening.

Yours ever
Victor Mallet

OUT FILE

N 6995/378/42

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

5th January, 1942.

105

My dear Victor,

We were delighted to learn from your letter of the 15th November to me of your great success at Upsala. I intended to write earlier to tell you so, but the papers were unfortunately held up in another department. (Your letter did not reach us till the 3rd December.)

We think these trips of yours to the provinces and your talks are most valuable. We are all in favour of your making use of any further opportunities of the kind and you need fear no criticism here for sending us accounts of them.

It is very gratifying to know that the feeling at Upsala is so pro-British.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) CHRISTOPHER WARNER.

V. A. L. Mallet Esq., C.M.G., C.V.O.,
British Legation,
Stockholm.

#53

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 7158

12 DEC 1941

106

Registry Number N 7158/378/42

FROM M.Marcus Wallenberg.Jr. to Mr.Warner.

No.

Dated 10th Dec.1941.

Received in Registry 12th Dec.1941

N: Sweden.

Suggested Anglo-Swedish tennis match.

Transmits copy of letter of 7th December to Mr.Sabelli suggesting an Anglo-Swedish tennis tournament to be held in Sweden arguing that this would be enthusiastically attended and would create a very favourable impression in his country.

Last Paper.

N 6996

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft. M. Wallenberg, Jr. from Mr. Warner Dec. 11th

Dft. Mr. Sabelli, B. Lawn Tennis Assn. from Mr. Warner). Dec. 24

Mr. Noller, Stockholm No 2 (on N 7449) Jan. 6

(Action completed.) 2/1/42

(Index.) ICM 21/3/42

Next Paper.

(N 7405)

(*Minutes.*)

See within

The aeroplanes from Sweden have a long waiting list of British and allied subjects valuable to our war effort, and all of these should have preference over a tennis team.

Personally I should have thought that such a visit would have a very bad effect on the Swedes, and I cannot see what M. Wallenberg means by saying "it would do a lot of good".

Mr. Gurney. A. M. B. Dunfield 13/12

From every point of view this seems to me a ridiculous suggestion.

E.V.C. 15/12.

I entirely share these views.

V.C.Gaunt 15/12

M. Wallenberg has now left. I do not suppose he will revive this idea, in view of Mr. Warner's letter.

E. X. E.V.Cooke 20/12. He

17208 5/38 F.O.P.

He rushed round to see me the moment he got my letter & assured me that I was quite wrong & the Kaiser wd. make a wonderful effect in Sweden — especially on the King. (which may be the point!)

M. d'Ft. [illegible] me & Mr Sabelli, saying I am not convinced in any case imagine it wd. be difficult to get a good Kaiser; & that if not. I will consult H.M. Min.r in Stockholm.

C[illegible]
20/XII.

Draft to Mr Sabelli / submitted

a. N. B. Delmfield
22/12

a. N. B. S.
6/1

Enclosure.

108

SAVOY HOTEL LONDON

TELEPHONE. TEMPLE BAR 4343 : TELEGRAMS. SAVOY HOTEL LONDON

Dec 10th 1941.

N 7158
12 DEC 1941

Dear Warner,

Would You care to glance through the enclosed letter regarding a British team of tennisplayers to be sent to Sweden? Apart from the fun of it, which perhaps is indecent in these times, I think it would do a lot of good.

Yours sincerely

M. Wallenberg

Copy.

109

Dec. 7th, 1941.

Dear Mr. Sabelli,

The Swedish Lawn Tennis Association, of which I am still chairman, whishes to extend to the British Lawn Tennis Association an invitation to send a team of British Tawn Tennis palyers to Sweden, where I can assure You that Your representatives will not only be given all possible facilities but will meet a most wholehearted welcome by the Swedish general public with its feelings of friendship and sympathy towards your great country.

With a British team of three men-players or at least two, several matches during a period of say fourteen days could be organized in various parts of Sweden, the chief event being, of course, an official match on Davis Cup lines in Stockholm as a start.

If for any special reason you hold preference as to form or team or programme or time for any other arrangements it goes without saying that we are entirely at your disposal to discuss any alterations that you care to make.

The most suitable time from a local point of view would be January, February of March next.

Please, do remember that we fully understand that existing conditions may make it almost impossible for You to organize this trip but viewing the deeper interests of our two countries I have ventured to forward You this proposal knowing the favourable reaction and keen interest which the appearance of a British team in Sweden would create.

During my short stay in Your country on an official mission I shall take the opportunity to approach Your authorities concerned with Anglo-Swedish relations and affairs and bring this matter to their attention and recommend it strongly to their favourable consideration and support.

I shall with the greatest pleasure be at Your disposal for further information and discussion, if You so desire, and remain, hoping that You have now fully recovered from Your indisposition,

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

(signed) M. Wallenberg Jr.

OUT FILE

111

N7158/378/42

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

11th December, 1941.

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Sabelli suggesting that we should send a tennis team to Sweden.

Frankly, I am not sure that I much like the proposal in war time, at first sight. Obviously it might be difficult to get an adequate team, but apart from that I feel the visit would have rather a frivolous effect. But I shall be quite prepared to reconsider this decision if others are strongly in favour of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) C.F.A.WARNER.

Monsieur Marcus Wallenberg, Jr.,
Savoy Hotel.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N 7158/378/42

A.H.B.S.

Draft.
Mr. Sabelli,
British Lawn Tennis
Association.

(from Mr. Warner.)

E.D.C.
22/12

96
112

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

27th December 1941.

Dear Mr. Sabelli,

While on a recent visit to this country Mr. Marcus Wallenberg, Chairman of the Swedish Lawn Tennis Association, wrote to me about his invitation to the British Lawn Tennis Association to send a team of players to Sweden early in 1942.

2. The first reactions of the Foreign Office to this proposal have not been favourable on the grounds that such a visit in war time would have a somewhat frivolous effect and would ~~be~~ rather be harmful propaganda for us in Sweden, than the reverse as Mr. Wallenberg claims.

3. I expressed this view in a letter to Mr. Wallenberg just before his departure, on receipt of which he came to see me and assured me that I was mistaken, and that the team would have a wonderful

effect/

effect in Sweden, especially on the King. I am, however, still unconvinced by his arguments.

4. In any case, I imagine that it would be difficult to raise a good enough team of British players at the present moment, but I should be grateful to learn your views on this. If you like the proposal idea ~~assure me that you~~ could get together a suitable team, I would propose ~~am willing~~ to write to our Minister in Stockholm and ask him for his views ~~on the proposal~~.

CFAW
22/12.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) C.F.A. Warner

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

114

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

(N 7158/378/42)

27th December, 1941.

Dear Mr.Sabelli,

While on a recent visit to this country Mr.Marcus Wallenberg, Chairman of the Swedish Lawn Tennis Association, wrote to me about his invitation to the British Lawn Tennis Association to send a team of players to Sweden early in 1942.

2. The first reactions of the Foreign Office to this proposal have not been favourable on the grounds that such a visit in war time would have a somewhat frivolous effect and would rather be harmful propaganda for us in Sweden, than the reverse as Mr.Wallenberg claims.

3. I expressed this view in a letter to Mr.Wallenberg just before his departure, on receipt of which he came to see me and assured me that I was mistaken, and that the team would have

H.A.Sabelli, Esq., C.B.E.

have a wonderful effect in Sweden, especially on the King. I am, however, still unconvinced by his arguments.

4. In any case, I imagine that it would be difficult to raise a good enough team of British players at the present moment, but I should be grateful to learn your views on this. If you like the idea and could get together a suitable team, I would propose to write to our Minister in Stockholm and ask him for his views.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) C.F.A. Warner.

54

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 7405
27 DEC 1941
116

Registry Number } CN 7405/378/42

FROM Sir Charles Hambro, (to Mr.Warner)

No. CH/444

Dated 24th December, 1941.
Received in Registry } 27th December 1941.

N : Sweden.

M. Wallenberg's suggestion for an Anglo-Swedish tennis match in Sweden.

Encloses copies of letters between M.Wallenberg Jr. and Mr. Sabelli (British Lawn Tennis Association) regarding the proposal to send a British tennis team to Sweden for a week or ten days. Thinks it would greatly enhance British prestige not only in Sweden but also in Finland, Norway, Denmark and even in Germany. Would like to know Mr. Warner's reactions to the proposal.

Last Paper.
(N 7158)

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Mr. Warner wrote to M. Wallenberg, in answer to a letter very similar to the one enclosed to M. Sabelli, and told him that his first reactions to this idea were not favourable. After a visit from M. W. a letter was written by Mr. Warner to M. Sabelli asking what chances there were of securing a suitable team — should the idea be further considered. Mr. Sabelli has not yet answered this letter (N.7158) although his answer to Sir C. Hambro, (transmitted herewith) looks as if it will be in a negative sense.
Perhaps we could wait a few days for Mr Sabelli's answer to Mr Warner before we reply to Sir Charles?

A. H. B. Denfield
27/12.

This is an example of the disadvantage of dealing with things slowly. I.S. Somers Cocks 27/12

Don't like to send Sir C Hambro a copy of my letter & the Sabelli. But I cannot because it was sent 3 days after the receipt of Sir C. Hambro's letter, altho I had not seen the latter & had initialled the draft.

(Action completed.) 28/1/42

(Index.) ICVL 21/3/42

Next Paper.

(N7449)

Aft. to Mr Sabelli five days before.
I knew the pressure, but these
delays only make more work & I
might have written differently if
I had known Sir C. Stanmore's view.
If Mr Sabelli does not reply
Dec. 30th
(Aft to Sir C. Stanmore enclosing
print of my letter to Mr Sabelli
28/12.

On N°4449
Draft submitted A. M. B. Schofield
31/12

A. M. B.
7/1

118

Ref: CH/444

2 Fitzmaurice Place,
Berkeley Square,
W. 1.

N 7405
27 DEC 1941

24th December 1941.

Dear Christopher,

I enclose copies of two letters which have passed between Wallenburg, who is Chairman of the Swedish Lawn Tennis Association, and the Secretary (I presume) of the British Lawn Tennis Association.

Quite naturally the British have not been very constructive as a result of Wallenburg's suggestion because of their limited knowledge of the means of communication and transport.

I believe, however, that if two or three tennis players of repute could be sent over for a week or ten days to play covered court matches with the Swedes that this sort of gesture would do more to enhance British prestige not only in Sweden but in Finland, Norway, Denmark and even Germany, than many hours of effort by all the propagandists we could muster.

It is just the sort of thing that would appeal to the Swedes and bring home to them the strength of the British Empire.

You might say that it would give the impression that we were not taking the war seriously, but I do not believe that this would be case. Anyway you might like to think it over as I should like to know whether your re-actions to the proposal are the same as mine.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Hambro

C.F.A. WarrerEsq.,
Foreign Office.

COPY

Dec. 7th, 1941. 119

Dear Mr. Sabelli,

The Swedish Lawn Tennis Association, of which I am still chairman, wishes to extend to the British Lawn Tennis Association an invitation to send a team of British Lawn Tennis players to Sweden, where I can assure You that Your representatives will not only be given all possible facilities but will meet a most wholehearted welcome by the Swedish general public with its feelings of friendship and sympathy towards your great country.

With a British team of three men-players or at least two, several matches during a period of say fourteen days could be organized in various parts of Sweden, the chief event being, of course, an official match on Davis Cup lines in Stockholm as a start.

If for any special reason you hold preference as to form or team or programme or time for any other arrangements it goes without saying that we are entirely at your disposal to discuss any alterations that you care to make. The most suitable time from a local point of view would be January, February or March next.

Please, do remember that we fully understand that existing conditions may make it almost impossible for You to organize this trip but viewing the deeper interests of our two countries I have ventured to forward You this proposal knowing the favourable reaction and keen interest which the appearance of a British team in Sweden would create.

During my short say in Your country on an official mission I shall take the opportunity to approach Your authorities concerned with Anglo-Swedish relations and affairs and bring this matter to their attention and recommend it strongly to their favourable consideration and support.

//

I shall with the greatest pleasure be at Your disposal for further information and discussion, if You so desire, and remain, hoping that You have now fully recovered from Your indisposition,

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) M. Wallenberg Jr.

COPY

THE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

121

Temporary Address:-

4 Grove Lane,
Kingston-upon-Thames,
Surrey.
Telephone: Kingston 0297

December 12th 1941.

Mr. M. Wallenberg,
Savoy Hotel,
Strand,
W.C.2.

Dear Mr. Wallenberg,

The suggestion made in your letter dated December 7th with regard to a lawn tennis match, was submitted to my Committee at their meeting held yesterday, when I was instructed to say that in the present circumstances the obstacles to the proposal are such that it would be quite impossible even to consider making any arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

s. Sabelli.

Secretary, L.T.A.

55

123

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 7449
31 DEC 1941

Registry Number } N 7449/378/42.

FROM Mr. Sabelli (Lawn Tennis Association) to Mr. Warner.

No.

Dated 29th Dec. 1941.

Received in Registry } 31st Dec. 1941.

N: Sweden.

Suggested Anglo-Swedish tennis match.

Refers to Mr. Warner's letter of 27th December (N 7158/378/42).

Executive Committee of the Association has decided that it will be impossible to make arrangements for a match with Sweden, as all the eligible men are in the Fighting Services and the Government may not give permission for transport of the team to Sweden.

Last Paper.
(N 7405)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9) Mr. Mallet, Stockholm No 2 (with copy Mr. Warner's letter ~~of~~ N 7158) Jan. 6

Draft. Sir C. Hambro (from Mr. Warner) Jan 5

(Minutes.)

Mr. Wallenberg should be informed of this verdict. ? through the Stockholm bag or via the Swedish Legation. Draft to Sir Chas Hambro ~~as N 7465/378/42~~ herewith C. M. B. Denfield 31/12

I think we shd. get Sir C. Hambro's answer first.

D. S. Somers Cocks 31/12

I have amended draft. & Sir C. Hambro. E. O. Cooke. 31/12.

Copy of my letter & Mr. Sabelli's to Mr. Mallet in P.L. for info.

GFAS 1/1/42.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
EW 7/1/43	KWE 21/3/42

Next Paper.

N 12/12/42 - 1942
(N 357/12/42) ~~- 1942~~

17208 5/38 F.O.P.

Mr. Somers Cocks 124

THE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING

2C

enter 30/12.

TELEPHONE
~~CENTRAL 7541~~

TELEGRAMS
LAWNTENNA, LONDON

Temporary Address:-
4, GROVE LANE,
KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES,
SURREY.

Telephone: KINgston 0297.

~~28, ESSEX STREET, STRAND,~~
~~LONDON, W.C.2.~~

N 7449
31 DEC 1941

~~INTERNATIONAL LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP (DAVIS CUP)~~

December 29th 1941.

C.F.A.Warner Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

Dear Mr.Warner,

Replying to your letter dated December 27th about Mr.Marcus Wallenberg's suggestion that a British lawn tennis team should be sent to Sweden, my Executive Committee had this matter before them at a recent meeting and they decided unanimously that it was quite impossible for them even to consider making arrangements for a match.

All the men who would be eligible to represent the country are in the Fighting Services, and the feeling of my Committee was that even if it were thought desirable to arrange a match, it would be difficult to get the consent of the various Commanding Officers concerned to give leave of absence, and to arrange for all the men to get leave at the same time.

The next point would be whether the Government, or whoever the authority under the Government would be, would give permission for the transport of the team to Sweden. Even if all these difficulties could be overcome, it is quite possible that those concerned might be criticised for making arrangements for such a venture in the present circumstances. This is a point, however, upon which I do not feel competent to give a decision of any real value, but in my humble opinion the damage to be anticipated from any criticism would far outweigh the problematical value of the propaganda in Sweden.

Furthermore, I am convinced that my Committee will not modify their views.

Yours sincerely,

H.Anthony Sabelli.

HAS/VEB

Secretary, L.T.A.

Registry 7449
No. N ~~7465~~/378/42.

~~A.H.B.S.~~

5
125

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

5th January, 1942.

Fair Draft.

Sir Charles Hambro.
2 Fitzmaurice Place
Berkeley Sq
W.1.

(From Mr. Warner).

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 24th December enclosing copies of Wallenberg's correspondence with the Secretary of the British Lawn Tennis Association concerning the former's proposal that a British team of players should visit Sweden this winter.

Wallenberg wrote to me direct about this and ~~I am afraid that~~ my first reactions to the idea were unfavourable, on the grounds that such a visit in war-time ~~would~~ might have a somewhat frivolous effect and ~~would rather~~ might be harmful propaganda for us in Sweden, rather than the reverse, as Wallenberg claims.

I expressed this view in a letter to Wallenberg just before his departure, on receipt of which he came to see me and assured me that I was mistaken, and that the team would have a wonderful effect in Sweden, especially on the King. I therefore wrote to Mr. Sabelli, the Secretary of the British Lawn Tennis Association, to ask whether it would be possible for him to raise a good enough team of British players at the present moment, and proposed that, if he liked the idea and could get together a suitable team, I would write to Mallet and ask him for his views. You will see from the enclosed copy of Mr. Sabelli's reply that the Committee of the Lawn Tennis Association have turned down the proposition ~~again~~ ~~Personally I have an open mind on the subject, since my talk to Wallenberg,~~ that we should not be prepared to reconsider it. I am personally pretty sure they ~~and I~~

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

E.W.L. 31/12.

and I should still be ready to put the point to Mallet if the Lawn Tennis Association could be brought to a more amenable frame of mind.

they are right, Since - apart from everything else - it is quite clear they cd. not get a good team together.

Cheers.
1/1/42.

Yours ever
(sd) Christopher Warner.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

127

4449

(N ~~7465~~/378/42)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

5th January, 1942.

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 24th December last enclosing copies of Wallenberg's correspondence with the Secretary of the British Lawn Tennis Association concerning the former's proposal that a British team of players should visit Sweden this winter.

Wallenberg wrote to me direct about this and my first reactions to the idea were unfavourable, on the grounds that such a visit in war-time might have a somewhat frivolous effect and might be harmful propaganda for us in Sweden, rather than the reverse, as Wallenberg claims.

I expressed this view in a letter to Wallenberg just before his departure, on receipt of which he came to see me and assured me that I was mistaken, and that the team would have a wonderful effect in Sweden, especially on the King. I therefore wrote to Mr.Sabelli, the Secretary of the British Lawn Tennis Association, to ask whether it would be possible for him to raise a good enough team of British players at the present moment, and proposed that, if he liked the idea and could get together a suitable team, I would write to Mallet and ask him for his views. You will see from the enclosed copy of Mr.Sabelli's reply that the Committee of the Lawn Tennis Association have turned down the proposition flat and are not prepared to reconsider it.

I am personally sure they are right, since - apart from everything else - it is quite clear they could not get

Sir Charles Hambro, K.B.E.,
2, Fitzmaurice Place,
Berkeley Square,
W.1.

get a good team together.

Yours ever
(sd) Christopher Wagner.

NORTHERN

1

F.O.
371

1941

SWEDEN

FILE No 3206

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

29691

1941

Sweden
NORTHERN

N6781 / G
25 NOV 1941
2

N 6781 / ~~472/G.~~ 3206/42

Mr Waller Stockholm
690.

Dated Nov 18th
Recd Nov 25th.

Visit of Sir G. Bernay to London.

Personal for Sir O. Sargent.

Sir G. Bernay has told Mr Waller that he has been ordered to visit London. This will throw great burden on his assistant & the Chancery

D. Sir Charles Hambro & Sir O. Sargent 21/11

Last Paper.
N 6542 / 5464/42

References.

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

see within.

E.B. 25.11.41.

(How disposed of.)
Tel. to Stockholm 698 21/11
Copied Sir C. Hambro 22/11

(Action completed.)
AB 24/12.

(Index.)
A

Next Paper.

29691

22107 1/41 F.O.P.

N6781

25 NOV 1941

3

N

[Cypher] PERSONAL (SIR O.SARGENT).

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet. D. 4.50 p.m. 18th November, 1941.
No. 690. R.10.20 p.m. 18th November, 1941.

18th November, 1941.

uuuuuu

IMPORTANT.

Most Secret.
Personal.

Following for Sir O.Sargent. Binney tells me that he has been ordered to visit London this week. This will throw great burden on his assistant and my Chancery in Mr. Pollock's absence cannot help much in dealing with lawyers etc.,

If Binney must go, I trust that it will only be for really essential reasons and for the briefest possible period. If it is only for legal consultations it would be far more satisfactory to send lawyer out here.

(INDIV)

2411

SECRET

Enclosure 4
Cabinet 21/41

21st November 1941.

N6781

25 NOV 1941

To Sir Orme Sargent
From Sir Charles Hambro.

I attach a draft reply to Mallet's most secret and personal telegram No. 690. You will remember that there are certain trade negotiations taking place with the Swedes and it is in order to get Binney's advice on certain aspects of these negotiations that we wish him to come here at the earliest possible moment. In fact without his personal presence I doubt whether we can get much further.

C H.

N6781

Tel. sent for
despatch 21/11

6.10 pm 5

Personal (Sir O. Sargent) 21.11.41

21st November 1941.

698
21 11 41
Cypher.
K/INDIV

Draft telegram to H.M. Representative Stockholm

Your telegram No. 690 [18th November 1941 ~~to~~ operation. Personnel]

Important, most secret and personal.

Following from Sir Orme Sargent.

While appreciating great burden on your Chancery I am satisfied of extreme urgency of Binney's visit to London. He will remain here the shortest possible period. His visit is not connected with legal consultations.

(copy to Sir C. Hambro)

CRDS 21/XI

5 10 pm

6

OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

[Cypher] PERSONAL (SIR ORME SARGENT)

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No.698. D. 6.10 p.m. 21st November, 1941.
21st November, 1941.

c c cc

IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No.690 [18th November 1941 - operation "Performance"].
Most Secret and Personal.
Following from Sir Orme Sargent.

While appreciating great burden on your Chancery I am satisfied of extreme urgency of Binney's visit to London. He will remain here the shortest possible period. His visit is not connected with legal consulations.

INDIV

51.

1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N 5972

14 OCT 1941

G

7

N 5972 / ~~4772/6.~~ 3206/42.

Sir W. Brown M/Supply
to Sir O. Sargent.

Dated Oct 13th
Rcd Oct 14th.

Sweden Purchasing Dept.

Refers to agreement that Sir J. Birney should head special purchasing mission in Stockholm. Thinks the time has come to make the arrangements official —

Last Paper.

N 5907/3206/42

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel to Stockholm 634
Oct 17th
Copied Sir C Hankey 18/10
Dft Sir W Brown from M. Warner 18/10

(Minutes.)

See our tel No 403 (N 3206) outlining the proposed arrangement, according to which Sir J. Birney would head the purchasing department and "report direct" to Mr. Mallet.

See also N 4861 on which it was decided not to instruct Mr. Radcliffe that the scheme would begin to operate on Mr. Mallet's return to Stockholm.

? Now telegraph Mr. Mallet as suggested by Sir W. Brown.

E. Cadogan
14. 10. 41.

Mr. Foxley. Please Dft. tel.
Dft. Smiths.
22802 8/41 F.O.P.

Brown.
16/X

E.D. Coote
14/10.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
25/X	N

Next Paper.

14/10

Enter Iron + attach pp. CRR

N5972

Telephone No.
GERRARD 8833.

Shell-Mex House,
THE ADELPHI,
LONDON, W.C.2.

14 OCT 1941

13th October, 1941.

Dear Sargent,

You will remember that it was agreed that Binney should lead a special purchasing mission in Stockholm. I think the time has come when it is desirable to make the arrangements official. I should be grateful, therefore, should you agree, if you would take whatever steps are necessary to regularise the position and to make it clear that Binney acts for us.

I understand he has also received a "Directive" from the Minister of War Transport; his official status should therefore, I suppose, be established as covering the Ministry of Supply and the Ministry of War Transport.

Yours sincerely,

W.B. Brown

Sir Orme Sargent, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.
N.5972/472/G.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet
Stockholm
cypher.
Telegram Indiv
No. 634
1711-41

Distribution:
Departmental
~~Secret~~.
No 1.

Copy to Chancellor 18/10.
ref.

C Calle.
VOL
15/10.

SL

12.10 am
18/10/41

P.O.
October. 41.

G

✓

My tel. No. 403 [of the 25th June: Setting up of Purchasing Dept. at Legation]
You should now bring into force arrangement outlined ~~in my telegram~~ therein.

~~No 403 [of the 25th June — setting up of Purchasing Department].~~
Binney acts ~~for Ministry~~ (will) for ~~of Supply~~ Ministry of War Transport as well ~~and~~ ~~will be responsible directly~~ ~~to you~~.

as for Min of Supply

CRAS
17/10.

Green

10

N.5972/472/G.
[Cypher].

DEPARTMENTAL NO: 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No: 634.
17th October, 1941.

D: 12.10 a.m. 18th October, 1941.

. . . . . .

My telegram No: 403 [of the 25th June: setting up of Purchasing Department at Legation].

You should now bring into force arrangement outlined therein.

Binney will act for Ministry of War Transport as well as for Ministry of Supply.

INDIV.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.
N 5972/472/G

C.F.A.W.

Draft. 9th

Sir William Brown,

Ministry of Supply.
Shell Mex House,
W.C.2.

(From Mr. Warner)

Copies of tomorrow's
Desp. 17/10.

Copy of tel. to Stockholm in N 5972/472/G and not sent yet now
copy of tel to Stockholm No. 403 in N 3206/G

18th October, 1941.

11

Dear Brown,

In Sargent's absence I enclose a copy of a telegram which we have sent to the Minister at Stockholm instructing him to bring into force the arrangements for setting up at the Legation a special purchasing mission under Binney, as
[illegible] your letter to Sargent of the 13th Oct.
I also enclose a copy of the earlier telegram referred to, which you will see has already covered the point about Binney reporting direct to Mallet.

17/x.

Yours sincerely
(sgd) B. A. B. Warner

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1. 12

(N 5972/472/G) 18th October, 1941.

[Dear Brown]

In Sargent's absence I enclose a copy of a telegram which we have sent to the Minister at Stockholm instructing him to bring into force the arrangements for setting up at the Legation a special purchasing mission under Binney, as requested in your letter to Sargent of the 15th October.

I also enclose a copy of the earlier telegram referred to, which you will see has already covered the point about Binney reporting direct to Mallet.

Yours sincerely

(Sd.) C. F. A. Warner

Sir William Brown, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

Ministry of Supply.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group..... F.O. .....

Class ..... 371 .....

Piece ..... 2969/ .....

Following document(s)*

retained in the Department of origin*

~~transferred to PRO Safe Room*~~

N5907/3206/42
N5527/3206/42
N5366/3206/42
N5148/3206/42
N5018/3206/42
N4861/3206/42
N3789/3206/42
N3680/3206/42
N3679/3206/42.

and closed until..... 2017 .....

*delete as necessary

29 1941

Sweden

NORTHERN

N. 3298 / G
1 ... 1941

13

N 3298 / ~~3206~~ 472 G. 3206/42

Stockholm
395:
Dated June 27th
Rec'd July 1st.

Sweden. Purchasing Dept:

Refs F.O. Tel. 403. N. 3206 / 3206/G of 25th June. Agrees with proposal for separate dept:. Gives details of Swedish attitude

Last Paper.

N. 3206/3206/42

(Minutes.)

Pp in Dept.

References.

(Print.)

? Copies Mr. Sperling, M.E.W.
Sir William Brown, M. of Supply.

E. Calvert
1.7.41.

(How disposed of.)

Copy Mr Sperling M.E.W.
Sir W. Brown M/S.
July 3

Sir C. Hambro M.E.W.
(with Sir O. Sargent's compts)
July 3.

~~Stockholm 466 of
July 12th~~

~~Copied Sir C. Hambro &c
No. 3679 - July~~

Is the department satisfied that the word "require" in paragraph 3 has been rightly decyphered?

O.H. Sargent

July 3rd, 1941.

It should be "acquire".

E. Calvert.
5.7.41.

(Action completed.)

A.J. 10/7

(Index.)

AV

Next Paper.

N. 3303/472/63
(N 3679) 3206/42

22107 1/41 F.O.P.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

Keep written

6/7

14

Northern Dept.

I should like to know why this telegram, which was received on June 28th, has only been sent to Mr. Sporborg on July 3rd. Sir C. Hambro, to whom it ought to have been sent, has been asking all day whether we had not yet received a reply to our telegram No. 403, and as I knew a reply had been received some days ago I was at a loss to understand why he had not seen it.

D. G. Sargent

July 3rd, 1941.

The paper reached me on July 1st, but, as I was not quite certain that copies should go to the two people who had (as I happened to have seen) initiated the action, I did not have them sent straight away, but merely suggested that this should be done; & submitted the paper. I have failed to trace the entered copy of N 3206/64.

& I asked for pp. (which were not forthcoming), as I was not at all sure that copies should go as suggested to Mr. Sporborg.

Cable 4.7.41.

Thanks

Apologies. CHB 4/7.

N.3298 / 1 JUL 1941

[CYPHER]. PERSONAL (SIR ORME SARGENT).

FROM STOCKHOLM TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Mallet.
No. 395.
June 27th, 1941.

D. 11.40 p.m. June 27th, 1941.
R. 8.50 a.m. June 28th, 1941.

yyyyyyy

Following for Sir Orme Sargent.

Your telegram No. 403.

I warmly welcome proposal in principle, and Commercial Counsellor strongly favours separate purchasing organisation.

2. I am not quite sure whether there would be enough work for the third member of the staff, but Binney can discuss this when he gets to London.

3. I do not anticipate difficulty about diplomatic status, but if Swedish Government are inclined to object Waring and newcomer could simply be notified to Ministry of Foreign Affairs as members of Legation staff, and should thereby require sufficient protection.

4. I am not at present able to judge in the light of changed situation here whether further operation will be feasible but we must obviously continue preparations and live in hope.

Room 44 says: "acquire"

JUL 1941
F. O. REGISTRY

28 **1941**

Sweden

NORTHERN

N 3206 / G

28 JUN 1941

16

N 3206 / ~~3206~~ / G
472 / 3206/42.

Mr Hambro.
to Sir Orme Sargent.

Dated June 23rd.

Rcd. June 28th

Sweden - Purchasing Dept

Transmits draft Tel. to Mr Mallet on reorganisation of Legation re placing orders for Swedish Materials. It is suggested that new dept be set up, not under Commercial Counsellor, with Mr Bunny as head, v Waring be transferred there. M/Supply proposes to send one further member.

Last Paper.

N. 3193/472/42

References.

(Minutes.)

See Wilkie.
? Reply to Sir C. Hambro.

E. Calle
28.6.41.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. to Stockholm
No 403. of 25/6.

Dft. Sir C. Hambro M.E.W.
from Mr Warner
July 5th

(Action completed.)

AB. 6/7.

(Index.)

G

Next Paper.

(N 3296) 3206/42

22489 5/41 F.O.P.

Enter 6805

SECRET

17

2, Fitzmaurice Place,

Berkeley Square, W.1.

N

23rd June, 1941.

N.3206.

28 JUN 1941 /G

Dear Orme Sargent

As arranged over the telephone on Saturday, I have prepared a rough draft of a telegram to Mallet indicating the measure of internal reorganisation of the Legation which we should like to see carried out.

The suggestion is made as a result of conversations with Sir William Brown and the Iron & Steel Control, and would be designed to give more facilities for the special arrangements of the Iron & Steel Control and ourselves in connection with future shipments of Swedish materials than are possible under the present system.

I should be pleased to come and discuss the matter with you if you would like me to do so.

Yours sincerely

Charles Hambro.

Sir Orme Sargent,
Foreign Office.

Seen by Sir O. Sargent. Amended copy dispatched.

CRBH.
25/6.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No.

Draft.

Telegram. to H.M.Representative

STOCKHOLM.

No 403 June 25 (cypher).

INDIV

~~Copies to Sir C. Stanhope~~ (Confidential)

Return to Sir O. Sargent.

9pm

DEDIP. Foreign Office 26/6/41 2.10 A
23.6.41.
18

The Ministry of Supply ~~desire a measure of internal reorganisation of the Legation to provide for~~ desire that the placing of orders for Swedish materials ~~to~~ should be placed under the individual control of Sir George Binney and a small staff to be associated with him.

2. ~~I therefore propose~~ It is suggested that a separate Purchasing Department should be set up in the Legation, not under the control of the Commercial Counsellor, and that Binney should be its first head and that he should report direct to you.

3. ~~I consider~~ It is also suggested that Waring should be transferred to the new department, and the Ministry of Supply would propose to send out one further man to be a member of it. ~~I would regard it as~~ It would be necessary that both Waring and the newcomer should have diplomatic status ~~and be accredited to the Swedish Government.~~

4. Please telegraph your views.

5. ~~I wish to make it plain~~ Please bear and do not think that the above arrangement ~~does not~~ involves the slightest reflection upon your Commercial Counsellor or his work which is regarded amongst all the departments concerned as quite excellent.

DSS
June 24

Copy
[CYPHER]

1 C

19

Mr. Mallet (Stockholm)
No. 403.
24th June, 1941.

D. 26th June, 1941. 2.10 a.m

Following from Sargent [Begins]

The Ministry of Supply desire that the placing of orders for Swedish materials should be placed under the individual control of Sir George Binney and a small staff to be associated with him.

2. It is suggested that a separate Purchasing Department should be setup in the Legation, not under the control of the Commercial Counsellor, and that Binney should be its first head and that he should report direct to you.

3. It is also suggested that Waring should be transferred to the new department, and the Ministry of Supply would propose to send out one further man to be a member of it. It would be necessary that both Waring and the newcomer should have diplomatic status.

4. Please telegraph your views.

5. Please do not think that the above arrangement involves the slightest reflection upon your Commercial Counsellor or his work which is regarded amongst all the departments concerned as quite excellent.

Registry
No. N 3206/3206/6

20

Draft.

Sir Charles Hambro

from

~~Sir O. Sargent~~

Mr. Warner.

E. Cadogan
30.6.41.

5th July 1941

My dear Charles,

~~Dear Hambro,~~ I write to ~~let you know~~ send you a copy of the telegram, ~~that a~~ draft of which you enclosed in your letter of the 23rd June. ~~has~~ You will see ~~Sir O. Sargent has also~~ ~~now been despatched, with~~ a few slight amendments.

~~I enclose a copy.~~

I am sorry that owing to an oversight we did not send you a copy at the time of despatch. You have now had a copy of the repd C.R.S.

Yours ever,

(sgd) Christopher Warner.

TEN IN THIS MARGIN.

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1. 21

(N 3206/3206/G) 5th July, 1941. END.

My dear Charles,

I write to send you a copy of the telegram, a draft of which you enclosed in your letter of the 23rd June. You will see Sargent made a few slight amendments.

I am sorry that owing to an oversight we did not send you a copy at the time of despatch. You have now had a copy of the reply.

Yours ever,

(Sgd) Christopher Warner.

Sir Charles Hambro, K.B.E.
Ministry of Economic Warfare.

NORTHERN

F.O.
371
✓

1941

SWEDEN

FILE No 3922

[redacted]

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

29695

1

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 3922

21 JUL 1941

2

Registry Number } N 3922/3922/42

FROM Mr. Mallet, Stockholm

No 253
(37/25/41)
Dated 10th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 21st July, 1941.

N: Sweden

Detection of a Communist terrorist organisation

Reports that publicity has been given in the Swedish press to the recently issued report of the Copenhagen Police regarding the detection in Denmark of the above organisation, which is said to have specialised in the sabotage of ships and shipyards, an had extensive ramifications in other Scandinavian countries, as well as in Holland and Belgium. Its leader, Ernst Wollweber, is believed to be under arrest in Sweden

Last Paper.

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Mr Lesley 14/8

Central Dept 14/8

M.E.Clarke 23/7

PLB 3/8/41

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
HG 20/8	Lbb 2/10/41.

Next Paper.

N 3923

29695

20817 F.O.P.

No. 253

(37/25/41)

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.
10th July, 1941.

N 3922
JUL 1941

Sir,

The Swedish press has given publicity to the recently issued report of the Copenhagen Police regarding the detection in Denmark of an extensive Communist terrorist organisation which is said to have specialised in sabotage of ships and shipyards. According to the Danish report which has been summarized in Mr. Parrott's telegram on the Danish press (political) No.230 of the 8th July, the organisation was directed and subsidized by Moscow and appeared to have wide ramifications in the other Scandinavian countries as well as in Holland and Belgium. Its leader is stated to be a former Communist member of the German Reichstag, Ernst Wollweber, who is believed to be under arrest in Sweden.

2. On the 8th July the Swedish Criminal Police issued the following communiqué which has been reproduced prominently in the press:-

"The organisation in question has had ramifications in Sweden and its activities have been followed for some time past by the Swedish police. The action taken by the police on the 4th June against certain Communists and adherents of Communism in Sweden was intended to detect crimes which the organisation was suspected of having committed in this country. Eight of the persons who were then arrested are still in custody. An investigation of their activities is proceeding. Details cannot at present be given regarding the result of the investigation, as it might thereby be disturbed".

3. Reports appearing in "Svenska Dagbladet" and "Stockholms Tidningen" of the 9th July indicate that the Communist organisation in Denmark had a centre at Gothenburg and that sensational revelations may be expected. The latter newspaper states that Wollweber, alias Anton or Bernhard, fled from Norway to Sweden in May 1940 and was arrested by the Stockholm Police and that he appears to be still in custody. The police, according to the newspaper, refuse either to confirm or to contradict this statement. "Svenska Dagbladet" devotes a leading article to the Communists and reviews its demand for the dissolution of the Swedish Communist Party. It reminds its readers that the Conservative Party has always resolutely opposed the Communists and recently it succeeded in converting the more tolerant Social Democratic Party to its point of view. Last summer the Riksdag gave the Government power to dissolve subversive organisations in Sweden but before action could be taken in particular cases the Riksdag procedure must be put in motion again. The Conservative Party were not satisfied with this state of affairs and its representatives in the Riksdag, Professor Bagge and Monsieur Domö, had made their position plain in a most striking fashion by speaking in the Debate against

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

against the Government bill as private members. (See my despatch No. 237 of the 22nd June 1940).

4. It is natural for the Swedes to take the present opportunity for venting their hatred of International Communism. At the same time it seems probable that the Germans are taking advantage of this deeply rooted prejudice in order to publicise Communist activities which are evidently nothing new and it would be regrettable if they were to fall victims to a German stunt on the lines of the Reichstag fire. I do not think however that the Swedish public will easily forget the disclosures made earlier in the year regarding the Nazi espionage ring in Gothenburg on which I have reported in earlier despatches. Most people genuinely detest both the extremes and would welcome measures against both.

5. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Vansittart

2

1941

N

SWEDEN

5

N 3923

21 JUL 1941

Registry Number } N 3923/3922/42

FROM Mr. Mallet, Stockholm

No. 256 (37/27/41)

Dated 16th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 21st July, 1941.

N: Sweden

Detection of a Communist terrorist organisation

Refers to Stockholm despatch No. 253 of 10th July (N 3922/3922/42) Reports on a conversation with the Secretary-General of the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who said that Wollweber was a notorious saboteur, who had caused a great deal of trouble between the German and Soviet Governments before the present war, as both were eager to have him extradited to their respective countries. The question of Knüfken was also raised.

Copied to Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N 3922

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Mr Loxley 28/8.

Control Dept 29/8

M.L. Clarke 2.9

3.8.41.

(Action completed.)

HG 2/9

(Index.)

Sec 2/9/41.

Next Paper.

N 4129.

No. 256

(37/27/41)

BRITISH LEGATION,
STOCKHOLM.
16th July 1941.

6

N 3923
31 JUL 1941

Sir,

I asked the Secretary General of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs on July 12th about the so-called communist plot referred to in my despatch No. 253 of July 10th.

2. Monsieur Boheman told me that Wollweber was a most notorious saboteur who before the war had been the head of an organisation which had blown up ships in the harbours of several countries including Sweden and had been especially active at the time of the Spanish civil war. He was a very clever man at his job and quite ruthless, and he had brought about the death of a number of innocent seamen by his sabotage. He had at one time been a Communist member of the German Reichstag, Later he appeared to have become a Soviet citizen. He had been in Norway in April 1940 and had subsequently disappeared. Many European Governments were interested in catching him but he was clever at hiding his tracks. He was caught at a small Swedish port (I think it was Karlstad) by a young and ignorant Swedish policeman who saw what looked like a foreigner smoking a cigarette on the quay. The policeman asked him for his passport and as it appeared that he was a foreigner took him to the police station. He was subsequently identified as the infamous Wollweber and gaoled for having a false passport pending further investigations.

3. A regular battle then began between the German and Soviet Legations here to try to get the Swedish Government to extradite him to their respective countries. The Germans wanted him for sabotage crimes. The Russians were terrified lest the Germans should get him as he could have given away all kinds of most compromising secrets which would have endangered the relations between the Soviet Union and Germany, at that time officially most friendly. Madame Kollontay used to go down to the Swedish Foreign Office frequently and beg for this Soviet citizen to be sent to his own country. Finally the Soviet Government trumped up a charge of forgery against him, tried him <u>in absentia</u> in Moscow and condemned him to seven years' hard labour, and then again asked the Swedish Government to extradite him, this time on the grounds that he was a condemned criminal. Since the outbreak of the Soviet-German war the Soviet Government had however taken no further interest whatever in his fate, in spite of the press publicity given to him here. In fact it appeared that their interest in him has ceased now that his delivery to the Germans cannot harm Soviet foreign policy.

4. Monsieur Boheman said that recently fresh demands for Wollweber's extradition have been made by both Germany and Denmark, and it seems quite likely that the man would be handed over to the Danish Government as the Swedish High Court had pronounced that there was no obstacle to his extradition.

5. I took the opportunity to say that I imagined that he was in quite a different category from Knüfken, regarding whom I had once

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

once before spoken to Monsieur Boheman. I was told that this was true and that Knüfken, although the Germans accused him also of sabotage, was not the same desperate type of character and had moreover many respectable friends both in Swedish and British trade union circles. Knüfken could not of course be set free, especially as the High Court had also ruled that he was extraditable, but the Swedish Government wished to avoid giving in to the German demand in his case and they were trying, Monsieur Boheman said with a wink, to get him pronounced "insane". To my suggestion that I could answer for his safe removal from Sweden Monsieur Boheman replied that this solution was out of the question as it would be far too dangerous for Sweden's relations with Germany.

6. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

(for HM Minister)

W.H. Montagu-Pollock

3

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 4129

29 JUL 1941

8

Registry Number } N 4129/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm).

No. 274 (89/10/41).

Dated 24th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 29th July, 1941.

N: Sweden.

Possible sabotage of a Swedish munitions train.

Reports on damage caused on July 19th to the railway station at Krylbo, when one of the trucks of a "mixed train" of Swedish and foreign waggons containing explosives caught fire. Comments on the concealment of the fact that the train was carrying explosives.

Last Paper.

N 3923

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

8) W.O. (Major Tamplin) July 31

(*Minutes.*)

Copy W.O., who may be interested in the description of the effects of the explosion, v.c. Major Tamplin.

Hb 30.7.41.

(Action completed.)

HB 2/7

(Index.)

HB 2/10/41.

Next Paper.

No. 274
(89/10/41)

N 4129

29 JUL 1941

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
24th July, 1941.

9

Sir,

I have the honour to report that damage provisionally estimated at from 4 million to 5 million Swedish crowns was caused on the morning of July 19th to the railway station Krylbo, an important junction situated at about 150 kilometres North-West of Stockholm when one of the trucks of a so-called "mixed train" of Swedish and foreign waggons, consisting of 59 waggons, five of which, according to an official statement, contained explosives, caught fire.

2. Shortly after the train arrived in the station (about 5 a.m.) a series of violent explosions commenced which continued uninterruptedly until 7 a.m. There were intermittent explosions until midday. The ammunition train, with the exception of a number of waggons which were saved by the presence of mind of some railway officials, was totally destroyed. The night passenger train from the north of Sweden which drew up at the next platform shortly after the explosions commenced, was set alight and gutted, the passengers escaping through the windows. Two other trains in the station were more or less burnt out, and the overhead wires, station buildings, etc., were severely damaged. The windows in a large part of the town were shattered, and buildings were damaged by splinters and projectiles. Twenty-four persons were injured, three of them seriously. The people of Krylbo, thinking that the town was being attacked from the air, sought refuge in air-raid shelters, cellars and in the woods. Two hundred four-inch shells, fortunately without their fuses, were hurled as much as three miles from the station. A man was injured in the leg by a splinter a mile and a half away. Another ammunition train standing in the station when the explosions commenced, was rapidly shunted away.

3. According to press reports the fire in the first waggon to explode (a Norwegian one), was caused by the bearings seizing. An eye-witness has stated that he observed the train six miles outside Krylbo and noticed that the bearings of one of the waggons were red hot. When the train arrived in Krylbo, this waggon was already on fire. The alarm was sounded, but the fire spread to the ammunition before the necessary measures could be taken. It is stated that the Norwegian rolling stock is on the whole on a lower standard than the Swedish and that the lubricating oil used by the Norwegian railways at the moment is of poor quality. Although the authorities declare that there is no ground whatever to suspect sabotage the belief is general that Communist agents are responsible for the incident. Moreover one of the directors of the State Railways, Monsieur Martin Blomberg, has stated that there are clues both for and against the "seizing up" theory.

4. It is worthy of note that the splinters hurled from the train were definitely not of Swedish origin. A report that German military experts have visited the scene of the accident has been denied, but the press has published a message to the effect that the Assistant German Military Attaché in Stockholm has visited a hospital train of German wounded in Krylbo. It is not explained whether these

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Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

these Germans were present at the time of the accident and were wounded then. According to one report, published in "Dagens Nyheter", the train staff was not aware that the train was loaded with ammunition.

5. Press comment on the accident has been confined to expressions of satisfaction that it was no graver than it was, and praise for the railway officials who removed the other waggons of the train before they were set alight. Of the major newspapers, only"Göteborgs-Handels-och Sjöfarts Tidningen"has delved more deeply into the circumstances attending the accident. After expressing the opinion that all the necessary precautionary measures were not taken, the paper reveals that a message was issued at 10.30 on the same morning by the official news agency containing the words: "the train conveyed a purely Swedish load". An hour later this last sentence was cancelled, and later still it was stated that, "there appear to have been a number of waggons with German material". The paper wonders whence the first report originated and whether the object was to keep the Swedish people in ignorance of the facts. However this may be, "Göteborgs Handels-och Sjöfarts Tidningen"continues, the Krylbo accident shows that the Swedish People have been very incompletely informed as to the nature of the transit permit granted to a foreign power. The Government's silence on these matters can only undermine public confidence. No one can fail to perceive the risks of this traffic - it involves a danger of Sweden becoming a theatre of war.

6. The Communist organ "Ny Dag" declares that the people of Krylbo, aware of the transports taking place on Swedish railways, thought that their town was being attacked by foreign aircraft. Owing to the fact that the Government has not previously announced that the transport of foreign war material on Sweden's railway is permitted, the latest revelations will increase the distrust of the public. "Ny Dag" is particularly surprised that shells, trotyl, etc., should be regarded as second-class explosives not requiring a special guard. Apparently the waggons concerned did not even bear any special marking to show that they contained explosive goods. Whether this concealment of important information is due to the public anxiety over German influence in Sweden, or whether it is intended to facilitate safe transport, it is impossible to say. The dangers of such concealment have, however, now been fully demonstrated. The paper also states that the contents of the waggon were entered on the registration cards as "foodstuffs". This is denied by an official of the State Railways.

7. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Vansittart

4

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 4300

6 Aug 1941

11

Registry Number } N 4300/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Montagu-Pollock (Stockholm).

No. 295 (114/2/41).

Dated 31st July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 6th Aug. 1941.

N : Sweden.

Subversive Communist Activities.

Refers to Stockholm despatch No. 256 of 16th July (N 3923/3922/15). Transmits a minute of 30th July on the disappearance of the Communist member of the Riksdag, who is suspected of being connected with sabotage against shipping.

Last Paper.

N 4129

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.)

HG 1/8

(Index.)

Y/86 2/14+1.

Next Paper.

N ~~4573~~ 4753

(*Minutes.*)

Mr. Lofley 15/8.

9.8.41.

12

No. 295
(114/2/41)

HIS Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Stockholm presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-~~mentioned documents~~.

N 4300
6 Aug 1941

British Legation,
Stockholm.

31st July, 1941.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Mr. Mallet's despatch No. 256 of the 16th July 1941.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Minute dated 30th July 1941.	"Disappearance of the Communist Member of the Riksdag, Monsieur Sven Linderot".

A copy of this despatch has been sent to the Political Intelligence Department.

3479 11786 (2)

S.E.O.

MINUTE.

On the evening of the 23rd July a statement was broadcast by the Swedish wireless to the effect that the police had for two weeks been trying in vain to get into touch with Monsieur Sven Linderot, leader of the Communist Party, Member of the Riksdag and of the Stockholm City Council. The following morning this statement was reproduced in the press together with such information as each newspaper had been able to collect from various sources. The general view was that the police desired to question Monsieur Linderot in a matter of sabotage against shipping. "Dagens Nyheter" declared that the Swedish police based their suspicions on a report from the German secret police presented on the 23rd June in which it was stated that Monsieur Liderot was associated with Wollweber in the Communist sabotage organisation directed against Germany which had had its headquarters in Copenhagen and its branches in Sweden. According to the police Madmae Linderot had informed the police that her husband had gone on holiday without informing her of his whereabouts. He would return, however, on August 15th.

There has been some discussion in the press as to whether the police have the right to arrest Monsieur Linderot, as a Member of the Riksdag can only be arrested with the approval of his peers. It was later stated, however, probably on official inspiration, that this immunity only applied to offences committed by a Member of the Riksdag in his capacity as such. There is the further question whether a Member can be, not arrested, but detained (anhållen)for interrogation by the police.

The press has been critical of the clumsy methods of the police, first in failing to keep track of a public figure such as Monsieur Linderot, and then in giving publicity to the matter.

On the 28th July the Swedish Communist newspaper "Ny Dag" published an open letter from Monsieur Linderot in which he stated that he saw no reason why he should report to the police. A thorough search, he declared, would easily find him. He had no intention of abandoning his public duties for an underground existence. The letter was dated the 27th July, "Somewhere in Sweden".

British Legation, 30th July 1941.

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 4753

23 AUG 1941

15

Registry Number } N 4753/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Montagu-Pollock. Stockholm.

No. 321 (59/9/41).

Dated 19th Aug., 1941.

Received in Registry } 23rd Aug. 1941.

N: Sweden.

Subversive activities in Sweden.

Refers to Stockholm despatch No. 306 of the 8th August (W 10077/2590/G). Reports further arrests by the Swedish police of members of the communist party and foreigners, on charges of espionage and sabotage. Comments particularly the activities of M. Sven Linderot, the communist member of the Riksdag.

Copied Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N 4300

References.

N 3923/3922/42

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Mr. Ogilvie. 18/9

Ditto 26.8.41.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
4/6 19/9	4/46 2/10/41.

Next Paper.

N5704

16

N 4753

23 AUG 1941

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
19th August 1941.

No. 321
(59/9/41)

W10077/2590/G

Sir,

Since the arrest of five Swedes for sabotage against foreign shipping reported in paragraph 2 of my despatch No.306 of the 8th August the Swedish police have been active in pursuit of communists or persons with communistic sympathies believed to have been taking part in illegal activities. On the 7th August the Stockholm police arrested four workers for having sent information to a foreign Power by wireless telegraphy. All four workers are Swedish citizens but the leader among them is said to have been born in Russia and to have come to Sweden at the age of seventeen. Their names are given as B.E.G.Eriksson, S.G. Carlsson, H. Johansson and A. Elming. Eriksson was caught in the act of transmitting a cypher message by wireless. Elming and Johansson had allowed their flats in Stockholm to be used for transmitting purposes and Carlsson had travelled around the country obtaining information. The activities of this gang are described as at least partially directed against Sweden. The four persons arrested were brought before the court on the 13th August. After the preliminary interrogation had been completed the trial was continued behind locked doors.

2. On the 10th August it was announced that another Swedish citizen, by name S.M.H.Svensson, had been charged with having participated by the storing of explosives in the activities of the sabotage gang in the north of Sweden (see paragraph 2 of my despatch No. 306 of the 8th August). Yet another Swede, by name K.E.Risto, was arrested in the same connexion on or shortly before the 15th August.

3. The Gothenburg police arrested four Swedish citizens for espionage on the 16th August. The four persons are S.A.A. Rystedt, leader of the Communist Workers' Club in Gothenburg, J.O.Johnsson, E.G. Paulsson, and a fourth person whose name the police do not wish to disclose at this moment "for humanitarian reasons". This latter person was arrested with Johnsson on the 3rd July when in the act of communicating by wireless with a foreign country. It is announced that

Rystedt/

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etc., etc., etc.,

Rystedt had provided the wireless apparatus and was the leader of the organisation. Paulsson is described as a member of a communist seamens' club, Johnsson as hawing some time belonged to the communist party and the fourth person as sympathising with communism. It is not yet stated whether the activities of these men were directed against Sweden.

4. Three lengthy reports on the police investigations into the activities of the communist sabotage gang in the north of Sweden were handed to the press on the 18th August in time to provide the afternoon papers with a first-class sensation. These reports contained detailed descriptions of the methods of the gang and of the parts played by its various members, particularly in its relations with the ringleader, Wollweber. They thus fill in the picture outlined by the Secretary-General at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to His Majesty's Minister on the 12th July and reported by Mr. Mallet in his despatch No. 256 of the 16th July last. Of particular interest at the present moment, however, are the revelations regarding the part played by Monsieur Sven Linderot, the communist member of the Riksdag, who is described as having been fully aware of the illegal activities of the communists in Norrbotten and as having even paid out money in connexion therewith. The so-called bourgeois press has consequently renewed its warnings against the communist party and its insistence on the application of the law passed last June in order to secure its dissolution.

N 3923/3923/42

5. The press has reported police measures against a number of persons charged with espionage not directed against Sweden, which is generally understood in fact to be connected with Norway. On the 7th August a foreigner was sentenced to five months' imprisonment under Section VIII, paragraph 14,(2) of the Penal Code. Another foreigner was sentenced to four months' imprisonment under Section VIII, paragraph 26, for having undertakem to participate in foreign espionage. Two women of Swedish nationality were sentenced "conditionally" to six and five months' imprisonment under Section VIII, paragraph 14. A foreigner was arrested in Stockholm on the 16th August for "espionage not directed against Sweden".

6. On the 13th August an Esthonian citizen by name Sleim Sorkin appeared before the court for espionage not directed against Sweden. He had apparently held a good position in Esthonia in a shipping company but he arrived in Stockholm as stoker in an Esthonian steamer on the 20th June,1940, remaining on board until the 27th November.

7. The Defence Staff have addressed a memorandum to the Swedish Government, stressing the importance of lawyers working on espionage and sabotage cases observing the utmost discretion regarding information which they may acquire in the performance of their duties. The memorandum proposes further that special permission should be required for persons desiring to take part in cases of this nature.

8. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

W Montagu-Bullock

b

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 5704

2 OCT 1941

19

Registry Number } N 5704/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet (Stockholm).

No. 388 (59/11/41).

Dated 24th Sept.1941.

Received in Registry } 2nd Oct.1941.

N:Sweden

Arrests in connexion with subversive activities in Sweden.

Refers to Stockholm despatch No. 321 of 19th August (N 4753/3922/42).

States that the four workers whose arrest was reported in despatch under reference have received their sentences, and seven more Swedes have been arrested in connexion with the case mentioned in paragraph 3. Gives details of sentences passed on four citizens mentioned in Stockholm despatch No. 344, of 2nd September, and reports other arrests for espionage and sabotage.

Copies sent Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N 4753

References.

W 10841/Green.

N

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Mr. Adolphus 23/10.

ast rec'd.

Cl. D. B. Schofield 5/10.

E.O.C. 6/10.

(Action completed.)

Ltd 4/10

(Index.)

KVE 17/11/41

Next Paper.

N 6960

N

No. 388

(59/11/41)

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
24th September, 1941.

20

N 5704
2 OCT 1941

N4753/3922/02

Sir,

The four workers whose arrest for espionage was reported in paragraph 1 of Mr. Montagu-Pollock's despatch No.321 of August 19th have now received their sentences. Eriksson was sentenced to 3½ years' hard labour, Elming to 1 year and 10 months, Johansson to 1 year and 6 months and Carlsson to 1 year and 3 months.

2. Seven more Swedish citizens have been arrested in connexion with the espionage case reported in paragraph 3 of the same despatch. On September 6th, the arrest of A.J.Strand, a journalist, P.I.Hellström, J.A.Wennström, G.A.Karlsson and N.J.Pettersson was announced. The last four are workers, and all of them are either Communists or known to have Communist sympathies. Strand has visited Russia and is married to a Russian who is a Tass Agency translator. He has acted as interpreter and intermediary between Rydstedt, the leader, and the foreigner who employed them all. All five, as well as the four previously arrested, have confessed to the charges brought against them. Rydstedt has confessed that at the request of a foreign citizen he organized wireless communication with a foreign country and met the foreigner in Stockholm to give him verbal and written information obtained by espionage. On September 18th, the arrest of two more Swedish citizens, W.A.S.Andersson and H.G.Andersson, was announced in Gothenburg. The latter is a railway worker and a former Communist. W. Andersson is an active Communist. Rydstedt has confessed that he obtained information concerning railway transports from H.G.Andersson through W.A.S.Andersson.

W1084/Green

3. The four Swedish citizens whose arrest was reported in Mr. Montagu-Pollock's despatch No. 344 of September 2nd have received their sentence. Svensson was sentenced on September 10th to 15 months' hard labour. It is stated that between October 1940 and June 1941 "he made eight journeys to a foreign country and there obtained and passed on to another foreign power information concerning the first foreign power, the transmission of which to a foreign power could damage Sweden's friendly relations with another foreign power". He was also sentenced for the unlawful possession of firearms. On September 17th Norgren and Bjurling were sentenced to 7 and 5 years' hard labour respectively for espionage concerning secret matters in this country. Lieberman was sentenced to 3 years' hard labour for espionage concerning external and internal affairs. Both Norgren and Bjurling made repeated visits to a certain foreign country to obtain information of a military, political and economic nature. They also made journeys to the north of Sweden

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Sweden to obtain information concerning Swedish military affairs. Lieberman, who acted as intermediary, spent the first 23 years of his life in Russia but left there in 1912.

4. It was announced on August 27th that a Swedish citizen by the name of S.T.Engström had been arrested in Stockholm for espionage. He had confessed to having undertaken to supply to a foreign power for payment information concerning another foreign power and concerning Sweden. On September 3rd the Gothenburg police announced the arrest of a foreign citizen who had already confessed to a charge of espionage not directed against Sweden.

5. A foreign citizen whose arrest for military espionage not directed against Sweden was announced on August 20th, was sentenced on September 18th to 9 months' imprisonment.

6. In connexion with the sabotage case in the north of Sweden to which Mr. Montagu-Pollock referred in paragraph 2 of his despatch No. 306 of August 8th and in paragraph 2 of his despatch No. 321 of August 19th, two more Swedish citizens and a foreign citizen have now been arrested. Their arrest was announced on September 2nd and the Swedes' names are O.H.Eriksson and E.H. Lundahl, both of Stockholm. The foreigner's name is Baier. Previous to this, the arrest of another Swedish citizen, G.S. Andersson, had been announced on August 23rd. The ten persons thus involved are all charged with offences against Sections 19 and 21 of the Penal Code, and it is stated that they are concerned in acts of sabotage against 17 vessels of German, Spanish, Polish, Italian and Japanese nationality.

7. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Vansittart

7

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 6960
4 DEC 1941
22

Registry Number } N 6960/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm).

No. 510/37/46/41).

Dated 22nd Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry } 4th Dec. 1941.

N : Sweden.

Suppression of Communism and Swedish Nazi parties.

Refers to Stockholm despatch No. 448 (N 6278/208/42) of 25th October. Reports that there are no signs yet of Swedish Government taking active steps for suppression of above societies. Resolutions were passed by Liberal Party, Board of the Social Democratic Youth Association (Stockholm District, Swedish Worker's Central Organisation text published in "Arbetaren") that generally speaking, suppression of the Communist Party would not ensure similar treatment for Nazi parties and was therefore not encouraged. Gives opinions by Minister for Finance, also M. Bergquist Minister without Portfolio and Liberal Party member (text in "Ny Dag") and finally, attitude of "Stockholms-Tidningen". Copied Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N5704

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Wy of 2nd (Miss McPhee) Dec. 13th.

(Minutes.)

Copy to M/Sq I. (Miss McPhee)

A. N. B. Ockenfield
9/12

E. Calle
9. 12. 41.

E. M.
12/12

(Action completed.)

WK 13/12/41

(Index.)

16 WP 13/2/42

Next Paper.

N6963
(N7404)

N 23

N 6960
4 DEC 1941

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
22nd November 1941

No. 510
(37/46/41)

N6278/208/42

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 448 of the 25th October last I have the honour to report that there are no signs as yet of the Swedish Government taking active steps for the suppression of the Communist Party or any of the Swedish Nazi organisations. On the contrary, public statements have been made by members of the Government which suggest that the question of applying the Law of 1940 on illegal organisations has been shelved.

2. During the past two or three weeks a campaign appears to have been conducted by certain Social Democratic and Liberal organisations against the idea of prohibiting the Communist Party. The motive behind this campaign would be the fear that the Government will be unable to apply the ban with equal efficacy to the Swedish Nazis as well as the Communists. It is however also emphasized that the prohibition of any Party would be a contradiction of the fundamental principles of democracy - an echo, no doubt, of the Prime Minister's declaration in the Riksdag on the 23rd October that democracy must respect its own laws. Thus a meeting of the Liberal Party in Gothenburg on the 10th November adopted a resolution pointing out that a prohibition would involve a violation of liberal and democratic principles, even if the Parties of both extremes were equally affected. The resolution also pointed out the practical difficulties which would arise if prohibited organisations continued to pursue their activities underground. Similarly a meeting of the Board of the Social Democratic Youth Association (Stockholm District) resolved at a meeting on the 14th November to draw the attention of the Social Democratic Party parliamentary group and the Party Committee to the danger of such measures. Again, a resolution of the Working Committee of the Swedish Workers' Central Organisation, of which the text was published in "Arbetaren" of the 22nd November, appealed to the workers to oppose the prohibition of the Communist Party partly on the grounds that such a

measure/

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

measure would be contrary to the principles of democracy and partly because it would not curtail the activities of Swedish Nazis who might be hiding among the ranks of the bourgeois parties.

3. Speaking at a meeting in Gothenburg organised by the Tramway Men on the 19th November the Minister for Finance (Social Democratic Party) is reported as having declared the dissolution of political parties to be fraught with danger since one measure of this sort would lead to another and that in the event of the question becoming actual the Social Democratic Party would reflect carefully before committing itself to this course. Monsieur Bergquist, Minister without Portfolio and a member of the Liberal Party, is reported in "Ny Dag" as having taken a similar line at a meeting of the Social Democratic Clerical Workers' Association on the 20th November when he apparently also pointed out the difficulties which would confront the police in keeping track of organisations once they had been declared illegal and their activities driven underground. Sweden might in fact gradually become a "police State".

4. "Stockholms-Tidningen" considers this campaign to be the work of the Communists while in circles where democratic ideas are more in favour it is alleged that the Government are prevented from taking the necessary measures by their fear of German reactions.

5. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

8

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 6963

4 DEC 1941

25

Registry Number } N 6963/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm.)

No. 518(208/1/41).

Dated 29th Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry } 4th Dec. 1941.

N : Sweden.

Military sabotage in Sweden.

Prime Minister, M. Hansson, informed Riksdag on 26th November that 264 accidental deaths had occurred in Defence Forces since outbreak of war and referred to Swedish destroyers disaster (see Stockholm telegram 560 of 17th September, N 5360/5360/42); 85 lives were lost accidentally in Air Force, due possibly to substitute fuel; explosion of ammunition train at Kvylbo (see Stockholm despatch 274 of 24th July, N 4129/3922/42) was due either to explosion of gunpowder by friction or to sabotage. All causes of explosion had been investigated and remedied. First case of military sabotage occurred on 11th November when damage to 3 training aircraft in hangar was discovered. (Copied Political Intelligence Department).

Last Paper.

N6960

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 D.N.I. (Cdr. Lord Dunmore)
D.M.I. (Major Tamplin)
D.A.I. (Wg Cdr. Pennington)
MEW (Mr. Skorborg)
Dec. 15th.

(Minutes.)

Copies to D.N.I. (Cdr. Lord Dunmore)
D.M.I. (Major Tamplin)
D.A.I. (Wing Cmr: Pennington

A. M. B. Denniston
9/12

F. Coby also Mr. Sjöberg, MEW.

Cecil Dodds
9. 12. 41.

E 10 6
12/12

(Action completed.)

EW 17/12

(Index.)

KCW 14/12/42

Next Paper.

N 7096

N 6963

4 DEC 1941

British Legation,
Stockholm.
29th November, 1941

No.. 518
(208/1/41)

26

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the Prime Minister informed the Riksdag om the 26th November in reply to a Question that 264 accidental deaths had occurred in the Defence Forces since the outbreak of the war. The disaster to the Swedish destroyers which I reported im my telegram No. 560 of the 17th September had most probably been caused by the explosion by a torpedo on board one of them. Eighty-five lives had been lost in accidents in the Air Force. Some of these accidents which had occurred had been due to the harmful effect of substitute fuel on certain engine parts. Steps had been taken to remedy this defect. With regard to the explosion of an ammunition train in Krylbo Station referred to in my despatch No. 274 of the 24th July last, Monsieur Hansson declared that it was improbable that the fire had been caused by the bearings seizing up, that it was not improbable that friction had caused the gunpowder to explode and that the possibility of sabotage could not be excluded, but was not supported by any evidence. As the result of the explosion all second-class explosives were now treated as first-class explosives and transported in special munition trains. At the frontier stations the freight trucks were inspected by Swedish experts, the freight inspected and the bearings oiled. Every consignment of ammunition in transport was accompanied by am armed guard.

N5360/5360/42

N4129/3922/42

2. On the day on which Monsieur Hansson made the aforesaid statement it was announced in the press that the first case of attempted sabotage of a military nature had been discovered on the 11th November. The rudder lines of three training aircraft in a hanger had been found to have been damaged. The public was asked to assist the police by providing any information which might bear on the case.

3. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

9

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 7096

9 - DEC 1941

27

Registry Number N 7096/3922/42.

FROM Mr. Mallet, (Stockholm).

No. 504 (59/13/41)

Dated 19th Nov.1941.

Received in Registry 9th Dec.1941.

N: Sweden.

Espionage in Sweden.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No. 206 of 11th April (W 4995/4995/G).

Gives details of further arrests and trials in Sweden, involving cases of sabotage, storage of explosives, and supply of information to foreign powers.

Copied Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N 6963

References.

N 3922
N 3923 K 7349/6627/42
N 4753 – with Room 47
N 5704
~~N 3153/42/42~~
W 6791/2590/49
W 7953/2590/G
W 10077/2590/G

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) M.I.5 ✓ Dec. 18

(Minutes.)

Copy sent to Mrs Loxley.

A. M. B. Schofield
15/12

E. Cable
15. 12. 41.

I have spoken to Mr Addis about this.

Copy to M. I. 5. ✓

G. O. C.
16/12.

(Action completed.)

Law 17/12

(Index.)

ICW 14/2/42

Next Paper.

N 7404

17208 5/38 F.O.P.

N

28

British Legation,
STOCKHOLM.
November 19th,1941

N 7096
9 DEC 1941

No. 504
(59/13/41)

Sir,

W4995/4995/4

In accordance with instructions contained in Foreign Office telegram No. 206 of the 11th April last, I have the honour to submit the following information based om press reports regarding espionage in Sweden. N 4753/3922/42

2. Im conmexion with the espionage case reported im paragraph 3 of Mr. Montagu-Pollock's despatch No. 321 of the 19th August and referred to in paragraph 2 of my despatch No. 388 of September 24th, two more Swedish citizems, W.A.S. Andersson and H.G. Andersson, were arrested im Gothenburg om the 18th September. They were both Communists and had been instrumental in providing the leader, S. Rydstedt, with information concerning railway transports. The arrest of another Swedish citizen, K.J.R. Ek, was announced om the 9th October. Six of the persons involved in this case received their sentences on September 25th. N.G. Pettersson, E.G.Paulsom and J.O. Jomsson were sentenced to eight months' hard labour; G.A. Karlsson and J.A. Wennström were sentenced to ten months' hard labour; K.B.G. Franzén was sentenced to one year's hard labour. They were all sentenced under Section VIII, paragraph 14 (1) of the Penal Code. On the 2nd October H.J. Strand was sentenced to three years' hard labour under Section VIII, paragraph 14 and P.I. Hellström was sentenced to fifteem months' hard labour under Section VIII, paragraph 14 (1). On October 16th the leader, Sven Rydstedt, was sentenced to three years and four months' hard labour under Section VIII, paragraph 4 (1 and 2) regarding activities endangering the friendly relations of the realm with foreign powers, and under Section XXII , paragraph 18 regarding abuse of documents of identity etc., and under Section III, paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Law of November 10th,1939, concerning the use in Swedish territory of wireless apparatus on foreign vessels and aircraft. W. Andersson was sentenced to eight months' hard labour under Section VIII, paragraph 14 (1). H. Anderssom and K.G.R. Ek were acquitted om the charge of espionage but were sentenced to fines of 150 Kronor under Sectiom XXV, paragraphs 17 and 22 om negligence im official service.

N5704/3922/42

3. Eleven of the twelve persons charged in the sabotage case in the north of Sweden (see Mr. Montagu-Pollock's despatches Nos. 253 and 256 of the 10th and 16th July last and Nos. 306 and 321 of August 8th and 19th and my despatch No. 388 of the 24th September) received their sentences on the 12th November. G.A. Söder was sentenced to four years' hard labour for assisting in damaging a ship and for retaining and storing explosives in the knowledge of another person's intention to damage property with them, as well as for theft. J.E. Nyberg was sentenced to three years and six months' hard labour for the first of the above offences, and K.V. Sundberg and J.A. Markström were sentenced to fifteen months' hard labour for the same offences as Söder. The ringleader, Wollweber, was sentenced to three years' hard labour for burglary, theft of explosives with intend to damage property, and forgery. G.A. Ceder received five months' hard labour for storing dynamite in the knowledge of another person's intention to damage property with it, and S.H.M. Svensson was sentenced conditionally to three months' imprisonment for the same offence. G.S. Andersson

N3922/3922/42
N 3923

W10077/2594/6

received/

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

received eighteen months' imprisonment for obtaining and storing explosives and K.E. Risto six months'hard labour for the same offences. O.H. Erikssom and E.H. Lundahl were sentenced to six and eight months' hard labour respectively for the same offences. The German citizen Baier has not yet received his sentence. He is concerned in an attempt to damage a Finnish vessel in Hammarby harbour, an offence for which the arrest of a Swedish citizen, S.E.E. Jonasson and a German by the name of R.K. Hagge, was sentenced on the 9th October. Earlier allegations that the leader of the Communist Party and member of the Riksdag, M.S. Linderot, was connected with the sabotage organisation and had paid out sums of money to it, have not been confirmed. A police report on the interrogation of M. Linderot was presented by the Public Prosecutor in the course of the proceedings on the 30th September, but it merely stated that M. Linderot had denied that any connexion existed between the sabotage organisation and the Communist Party.

4. The Swedish engineer S.T. Engström, whose arrest was reported in paragraph 4 of my despatch No. 388 of the 24th September,was sentenced on the 17th November to hard labour for life for providing a foreign power with drawings and maps of Swedish coastal fortifications, on May 23rd and June 26th of this year. Engström had been entrusted with the information concerned by virtue of his position as foreman supervising the work of construction on these fortifications. On the 26th June and the 12th July of this year he had undertaken to obtain for a foreign power information concerning other foreign powers which might have damaged Sweden's friendly relations with those powers. The Court confiscated the sum of 15,000 Finnish Marks, another sum of 35,000 Kronor and a wireless set. The deeds in the case are to remain secret for fifty years. The sentence on Engström has attracted considerable attention as being the most severe ever pronounced in Sweden for espionage. It is felt that the foreign power for which Engström was working should be disclosed, in accordance with a request put forward recently by the newly formed Press Council. "Göteborgs-Posten" strongly urges the authorities to disclose the power for which Engström was working. "Aftonbladet" also refers to the case, taking it as a further indication of the necessity of dissolving the Communist Party.

W6791/2590/49
W7953/2590/49

5. The Swedish citizen D.A. Bélin, (see paragraph 4 of my despatch No. 161 of the 12th May and my despatch No. 226 of the 23rd June) was sentenced on September 27th to two and a half years' hard labour for espionage under Section VIII, paragraph 14 (1 and 2) of the Penal Code. Besides having transmitted to a foreign power information contained in a secret trade agreement, he had transmitted information obtained by another person at his request in a neighbouring country.

6. The Estonian citizen Slein Sorkin (see paragraph 6 of Mr. Montagu-Pollock's despatch No. 321 of the 19th August last) was sentenced on September 25th to fifteen months' hard labour for espionage under Section VIII, paragraph 14 (2). Between February 14th and May 22nd he had attempted to obtain information concerning Estonian refugees in Sweden. The trial was described as having been "long and difficult".

7.

K7349/6627/42

7. It was announced on the 26th September that the Court of Appeal had rejected the appeal of a British subject, Mr. W.S.K. Millar, against his sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment. (See paragraph 3 of my despatch No. 226 of the 23rd June and His Majesty's Consuls despatch No. 108 of the same date). The appeals of the Swedish and Norwegian citizens sentenced at the same time were likewise rejected. It was announced on the 6th November that four persons had been arrested for attempting to release Millar from prison in the beginning of September. Their names are: E.Å.Sjögren, G.E. Grahn, G.E. Lehnberg and E.V.G. Råberg. A certain K.G. Gustafsson, previously arrested for theft, was also involved.

8. The arrest of a dangerous criminal, whose real identity has not yet been ascertained but who at present goes under the name of F.N. Rom and claims to be an Estonian, was announced on the 1st October. He was the leader of an espionage and sabotage organisation, five members of which were arrested at the same time. The sabotage work has been directed against the Swedish railways. Besides Rom, the names of those under arrest, all Swedish citizens, are as follows: (Mrs) E.O.Möller, K.T. Blomkvist, L.E.G. Haak, S.E. Kihlbom and (Miss) G. Åhman. The two latter appear to have been unaware of the sabotage activities of the organisation. In July 1939, Rom entered Sweden on a false Swiss passport under the name of Johann Götzinger and has used several different names in this country since. The details of his past life are far from clear, but he is a Jew who has been engaged in anti-Fascist work since 1934. He visited Moscow in the autumn of 1940 and returned to Sweden across as unguarded part of the frontier in December. Möller appears to have been considerably under Rom's influence. Her father was Russian and her mother German, but she obtained Swedish citizenship by marriage. The arrest of another Swedish citizen involved in this case was announced on the 10th October. He had assisted in the purchase of chemicals.

9. It was announced on the 21st October that the police were on the tracks of a large gang engaged in espionage and theft. The case received particular prominence in the press because a certain John Andersson, formerly middle-weight boxing champion of Europe, was involved. His role appears to have been a very minor one, however. No more names have been mentioned as yet but it was announced on October 25th last that twenty-one persons were involved and that thirteen had been declared arrested. Two members of the gang took part in the attempt to rescue Millar, according to an unconfirmed report in the pro-German paper "Stockholms-Tidningen".

10. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

Victor Mallet

10

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 7404

27 DEC 1941

31

Registry Number } N 7404/3922/42

FROM Mr.Mallet, (Stockholm).

No. 547 (37/47/41).

Dated 18th December, 1941

Received in Registry } 27th December, 1941.

N : Sweden.

Suppression of political parties and seditious organisations in Sweden.

Refers to Stockholm despatch No.510 of 22nd November (N 6960/3922/42). Gives account of proceedings in the Riksdag on 10th December when M. Skoglund, leader of the Conservative group, attacked the Government for not taking measures against seditious organisations. Summarises press comments which no doubt led to the debate in the Riksdag, discussing satisfactory solution of the problem and the effect of a ban on the activities of any party.

Copied Political Intelligence Department.

Last Paper.

N7096

References.

N6278/208/42

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

8) H. of C. (Miss Nicholls) Jan. 7

(*Minutes.*)

another short discussion on this problem for which, it seems, no solution will be found as long as Russia holds out. Should the fall, the communist parties in Sweden would of course fall with her: and the Swedes had expected this to happen.

A. H. B. Rumbold

1/1

The arguments in para 4. are strong ones in favour of doing nothing

J.S. Somers Cocks 1/1

Copy to H. of C. (under usual cover). E.D. Coates. 1/1.

CFMM. 2/1.

(*Action completed.*) Ent 7/1/43

(*Index.*) done 14/2/42

Next Paper.

N 87/87/42-942

17208 5/38 F.O.P.

N 32

British Legation,
Stockholm.
18th December, 1941

No. 547
(37/47/41)

N 6960/3922/42

T. 7404
27 DEC 1941

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 510 of the 22nd November, I have the honour to report that a sharp exchange of viewsconcerning the prohibition of political parties occurred in the Riksdag on the 10th December between the Prime Minister and the leader of the Conservative group in the Second Chamber, Monsieur Skoglund. The Minister of Justice had previously answered a question concerning penalties for espionage, and he revealed that a Bill imposing severer penalties for offences under Section VIII under the Penal Code would be introduced in the Riksdag at the beginning of next year. This led to a discussion on the activities of seditious organisations, during the course of which Monsieur Skoglund delivered a surprising attack on the Government. He declared (incorrectly) that all the Party leaders, with the exception of the Communist leader, had at the beginning of the present session urged the Government to take measures against seditious organisations. "I am at a loss", he said, "to understand why the Government could not during this session introduce and put through a Bill empowering the authorities to take steps against individuals and parties carrying on seditious activities. I must confess that I am dissatisfied with the present rate of developments". In answer, the Prime Minister expressed his surprise that a representative of one of the Coalition Parties should see fit to attack the Government so sharply. "I repudiate any suggestion that the Government is unwilling to act. But action is not the only thing; one must consider how to act. The Government is bound to consider whether or not the measures it proposes are sufficiently effective". Monsieur Vought, leader of the Social-Democratic group, corrected Monsieur Skoglund by pointing out that his statement at the opening of the session (see my despatch No. 448 of the 25th October) had merely expressed his Party's willingness to consider the question of a prohibition if it applied to both extremes. Monsieur Österström, Liberal leader, made it clear that the statement made by him on his Party's behalf had been to the

N6278/10/42

same/

The Right Honourable
Antjony Eden, M.C., M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

same effect. The Prime Minister then delivered a strong attack on the Communist Party and accused it of fostering a "spirit of sabotage". This somewhat mollified Monsieur Skoglund, who closed the subject by expressing his extreme satisfaction with the Prime Minister's words.

2. This is the first occasion on which the increasingly sharp difference of opinion that exists in the country concerning the prohibition of seditious organisations has found expression in the Riksdag. The debate no doubt arose out of the publication in "Social-Demokraten" of the 5th December of a statement to the effect that no proposal to dissolve seditious organisations would be submitted to the Riksdag this year. On the following day "Svenska Dagbladet" published a statement by Monsieur Bagge, Minister for Education and Public Worship, expressing surprise at the publication by "Social-Demokraten" of this announcement. He confirmed, however, that the information was correct but emphasised that the matter was still under consideration and had not been finally shelved. He regretted that the examination of the problem had been so drawn out as to make it difficult to bring the question up in the Riksdag this year. The Conservative Party would naturally continue to work for a satisfactory solution of the problem. On the same day "Svenska Dagbladet" in an editorial pointed out that the Conservative and Agrarian Parties had consistently urged the dissolution of the Communist Party and blamed the delay on the doctrinaire attitude of a large section of the Social-Democratic Party and the majority of the Liberals who had opposed a prohibition. Some of the Social-Democrats had seen the need for action but had expressed a desire that any measures taken should strike both extremes equally. The Conservative Party had agreed that the Swedish Nazi group "Svensk Socialistisk Samling" should come under the ban because its members had been guilty of espionage and sabotage. They could not, however, agree to the dissolution of a party merely for its views.

3. The matter was mentioned by Monsieur Gustaf Andersson, leader of the Liberal Party and Minister of Communications in a speech delivered on the 7th December at Mariestad. The Minister admitted that the investigations into the subject which had been made had shown that grounds existed

for

34
END

for drastic action against certain extremist groups. At the same time it had become evident that a ban on Parties would be very difficult to apply in practice. To be effective it would require increasing control of the life of the citizen, an idea which was foreign to Sweden's political system. Though there were many who for that reason felt hesitant, their attitude should be construed not as generosity towards the Communists or the Nazis but rather as reluctance to take decisions, the consequences of which could not be foreseen. A circular editorial issued from the Liberal Party headquarters stressed that there is no disagreement in the Government as to the justification of a prohibition; it is the practical difficulties in the way of its application which have so far delayed the introduction of a Bill.

4. The "practical difficulties" which are so frequently referred to in vague terms may be summarized as follows:- A ban on a political party would not in itself prevent that party from propagating its views in the press and by other means. It would not affect the political activities of persons not on the party lists. As regards the Communists, a ban would probably drive them to continue their activities underground. The Communist deputies would still sit in the Riksdag until the expiry of their mandates. On the other side, Swedish Nazis can be found in so many organisations and societies, many of which deny all connexion with Nazi Germany, that it would be impossible to strike them all, and the prohibition of one group would merely result in its rebirth under another name shortly afterwards.

5. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Gardiner

F.O.
371

1

NORTHERN

1941

SWEDEN

FILE No 6067

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

29701

1

N

1941

SWEDEN

N 6067

21 OCT 1941

2

Registry Number } N 6067/6067/42

FROM Foreign Office Minute. (Mr.Loxley).

No.

Dated 3rd Oct.1941.

Received in Registry } 21st Oct.1941

N: Sweden.

Possible visit of Mr.Godfrey Winn to Sweden.

Reports interview with Mr.Winn of Sunday Express fame, who wishes to go on a lecture tour to Sweden. Sir C.Hambro thought the idea good and anticipated no difficulty in arranging an invitation. Mr.Loxley was doubtful however, as Godfrey Winn seems effiminate in appearance and manner. Further minutes are appended by Messrs.Warner, Lockhart, Gurney, Coote and finally Mr.Loxley again.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

See action within

Y X

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mr. H.R. Scott (N. of I.) Oct. 21st

Copy Mr. Loxley's comments to Sir C. Hambro Oct. 22nd

22.10.41.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

KVL 13/11/41

Next Paper.

N 7381

29701

21190 F.O.P

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

N 6067
21 OCT 1941

Minutes.

enter

3

I saw Mr Godfrey Winn, the journalist of "Sunday Express" fame, a few days ago; & he told me that he would much like to go on a lecture tour to Sweden? SWEDEN, if one could be arranged. I don't know how he would get down there; but in this country he attracts enormous crowds to his lectures & he is continually stressing the importance on keeping this country of information.

I happened to meet Sir C. Hambro yesterday & mentioned the idea to him. He thought it a good one & felt sure that there would be no difficulty about arranging an invitation for him.

I shouldn't care to offer any opinion myself; I know too little with regard to Sweden and

and J M: Winn. Against the latter
is the fact that he is decidedly prominent
in affirmative & manner; on the other
hand he is a most successful
lecturer, has plenty of subject to
talk about.

As Sir C. Hunter seemed most
interested perhaps the Dept. would ask
to keep in touch with him through,
strictly speaking, this is hardly his affair.

Nature Dept.

PWh
3/10.

Mr. Bruce Lockhart: I apologize
for troubling you, but your
opinion wd. be a great help
on this. My own instinct
wd. be against sending an
Ultra-nationalist lecturer to
Sweden.

CRBL
3/10.

I/→

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

I agree that the Swedes are he-men, but Godfrey Winn has had a wide experience during the present war, has been to sea in a trawler, and, I think, in a submarine and has lots of "guts". He is a good lecturer. As for effeminacy, there is sometimes plenty of muscle behind an effeminate exterior.

R A Butler Foreign Office,
5/10.

Mr. Gurney: When I return this might be put to the British Council, if you agree, "without prejudice".

RAB
7/X.

I agree with the views expressed by Mr Warner on Oct. 3. Mr Loxley tells me that Mr Winn's lectures in this country are on such war subjects as the Battle of the Atlantic, the factories, the Air Force and that his subjects are not of the cultural variety, to which British Council lectures have

have to restrict themselves. The question of a visit by him to Sweden would thus be for M. of I to deal with rather than the Council.

The Council would be able to provide any number of lecturers of the type which would appeal to the serious-minded, well-educated Swedes ~~in Sweden~~ in academic circles and elsewhere. The Council is expanding its activities in Sweden, has appointed a special representative there as roving lecturer, who will organise the teaching of English in (with a staff of assistant teachers) and will help to revive ~~the~~, with Council funds, the dormant Anglo-phil Societies in the provinces. One of the needs of the Council will be lecturers. Hitherto ~~the~~ it has been impossible to send any, owing to transport difficulties. We are told that whereas, now, a seat can be found for the outward journey, there is a queue of 1000 waiting for return passages. If a tour can be arranged for a journalist like Mr Winn, ~~and~~ (the Swedish Govt of course may refuse to allow anyone to lecture on the war and thus do propaganda, and if they allow a British propagandist, we must expect Germans to be allowed to do the same there) the Council will expect to be permitted to send their lecturers too.

V.T. Gurney
6/10

Then we might ask the views of the Min. of Information. If they have no objection we could then consult Mr. Mallet. E.D. Coats. 8/10. Yes.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

7

Mr. Harris not really our affair. And if Mr Loxley agrees we might just tell the M. of L. of the Union's approach & Mr Loxley if he thinks any reply to the Union necessary might just tell them that we have referred his suggestions to the M. of L. whose job it is.

CRAS
8/x.

Mr Loxley, Prior

I think that action suggested by Sir H. Warren will meet the case. Sir C. Hambro would, I think, be interested to have a copy of our letter to the M. of L.

TNL
9/10.

Letter to the appropriate personal M. of L. [illegible] with Mr Loxley's compts.

for Sir C. Hambro.

CRAS.
10/x

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N6067/6067/42.

8

21. Oct. 1941.

Draft 14th.

Mr H. R Scott

M. O. I.

from
Mr Warner

OUT FILE

Dear Scott

Godfrey Winn, who is no doubt known to you, told a member of the P.O. ~~has enquired of us whether~~ the other day that he wd. much like ~~there would be any objection~~ to ~~his going~~ to Sweden on a lecture tour.

We should be glad to hear if you would let us know whether in your view this would be desirable or not. We understand that he is a good lecturer, and that his subjects are eminently suitable, but we do not

N/P.
We understand that he lectures on War Subjects & therefore the matter seems to be one for you rather than for the British Council. If Winn reverts to the subject he will be told that the matter is

Where

know

Sure whether his personality is
of a kind that would appeal
to the Swedes.

If your reply is favourable,
we will put the matter
up to Mallet.

Whose concurrence is have
been informed of his
suggestion.

Yours Sincerely

19/x sd) L.F.A. Wagner

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

10

OUT FILE

Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

21st October,
1941.

(N 6067 /6067/42)

Dear Scott.

Godfrey Winn, who is no doubt known to you, told a member of the Foreign Office the other day that he would much like to go to Sweden on a lecture tour.

We understand that he lectures on war subjects and therefore the matter seems to be one for you rather than for the British Council. If Winn reverts to the subject he will be told that the Ministry of Information whose concern it is, have been informed of his suggestion.

Yours Sincerely

sd) P.F.A. Warner.

J.R. Scott, Esq.,
Ministry of Information.

2

1941

N

SWEDEN

N 7381

26 DEC 1941

11

Registry Number } N 7381/6067/42.

FROM Mr. J.E. Nash (Foreign Office News Department Ministry of Information) to Mr. Somers-Cocks.

Dated 23rd Dec.1941.

Received in Registry } 26th Dec.1941

N:Sweden

Position of British Journalists in Stockholm.

Transmits copy of letter from Mr. Bernard Alton, Newspaper Proprietors Association Limited to Mr. Brendan Bracken (Ministry of Information) who are about 15 British journalists performing most useful service in Stockholm but are in grave danger of being interned should Germany invade Sweden. Refers to suggestions made last year that Foreign Office should offer some protection. Enquires whether they could be included in diplomatic staff, and promises to ascertain names of men concerned.

Last Paper.

N 6067

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. Stockholm 714 Dec. 31

8) Mr. J.E. Nash (F.O. News Dept: M.O.I)

Copied A.I.1 (Capt Hesketh Pritchard) Dec. 31 Jan 2

Tel. Stockholm No. 29 Feb. 7 Jan. 16

8) Mr. J.E. Nash (F.O. News Dept. M.O.I) Jan. 20

(Action completed.)

EW 2/2

(Index.)

ICW 28/2/42

Next Paper.

(N482/482/42 -1942)

(Minutes.)

In paragraph 2 the Newspaper Proprietors' Association allege that a suggestion to the Foreign Office eighteen months ago that something should be done to protect the British journalists in Stockholm did not bring any helpful response. There is no trace of this in entered papers.

I do not see how we can suggest an answer to this letter without consulting Stockholm and I submit a draft telegram.

J.S. Somers Cocks

27th December, 1941.

E.V. Cooke 27/12.

At Mr. Warner's request, I have enquired what was done at other posts where there was (or is) danger of invasion by Germany:-

Spain and Portugal. British journalists have not been put on the diplomatic staff.

Greece. The question did not arise as all concerned were evacuated in a large

large steamer.

~~Yugoslavia~~ Finland. 2. Journalists were made members of the Legation in the last few days before the outbreak of war.

Belgium and Yugoslavia. No journalists were made members of ~~the Belgian Legation~~ H.M. Missions. I gather from Mr Dew & Mr. Scarlett that journalists relied more on their own legs than on diplomatic privilege to get themselves out of these two countries!

The Netherlands. I have no information.

On the whole, therefore, the precedents are against Mrs. Alton's suggestion, but I imagine that it depends very much on local conditions and, in particular the attitude of the local Govt.

Mr. Kemp tells me that there will be no bag to Stockholm just yet, so I imagine that we had better Telegraph.

J.S. Somers Cocks

30/12

Sent ~~30/12~~ C.P.A.S.
30/12.

We have objected strongly to bogus German diplomats and it is really a question of what the Germans will stand for. I can hardly believe myself that they will regard such appointments as bona fide. ~~Ex~~ actually.
31.XII

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Actually, the attitude of the Germans towards British subjects in Finland was that they were all spies ~~and~~ or potential spies. Consequently, the more of them cleared out with H.M. Legation, the better from the German point of view.

It is quite possible that that might also be their attitude in ~~Finland~~ Sweden.

JSSC
31/12

Telegram sent per despatch.

enter soon.
it is thought that there are 14
previous pp.

N. 7381
26 DEC 1941

FOREIGN OFFICE NEWS DEPARTMENT,
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,
MALET STREET, W.C.1.

23rd December, 1941.

Dear Somers-Cocks,

I understand that your telephone message to me was passed to a namesake of mine, Mr. L.C. Nash, Chief Clerk of this outfit. If I received the message correctly, you would like to have a copy of the letter from the Newspaper Proprietors Association for consideration, and I attach a copy hereto.

The letter has been acknowledged.

Yours ever,

L. E. Nash

J.S. Somers-Cocks, Esq.,
Foreign Office.

15

COPY.

THE NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS ASSOCIATION LTD.,

154 Fleet St., E.C.4.

12th December, 1941.

The Rt. Hon. Brendan Bracken, P.C., M.P.,
Ministry of Information,
Malet Street,
W.C.1

Dear Mr. Brendan Bracken,

I have been asked by the Council to approach you in regard to the position of British journalists in Stockholm. These men are performing a most useful service to the country, but are in very grave danger of being interned - should Germany decide suddenly to walk into Sweden.

British journalists in other neutral countries have suffered this fate previously, and a suggestion to the Foreign Office eighteen months ago that something should be done to protect them did not bring any helpful response.

Perhaps you would be good enough to take a personal interest in the matter to ascertain whether these men, as they are few in number, could be in some way included in the diplomatic staff, so that in the event of the annexation of Sweden by the enemy they would be allowed to leave with the official representatives of the Government.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) BERNARD ALTON.

P.S.

I am endeavouring to ascertain the names of the men concerned, but in view of the dangers of delay perhaps the matter can be looked into while this information is being obtained.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.
N 7381/6067/42

J.S.S.C.

Draft.

Mr. Mallet,

STOCKHOLM.

Telegram.

No ..774 Dec 31

(Cypher) K/INDIV

(Dept. No. 1)

Gen Dept. first. See minute

Copy: Mr. N.E.Nash,
F.O. News Dept.,
M. of I.

~~Despatched~~.

EVE
27/12

6 Sep

OUT FILE 1/1/42

December, 1941.

Despatched 12.15 a.m. 16

~~IMMEDIATE~~.

Minister of Information has received a personal letter from the Newspaper Proprietors' Association stating that the British journalists in Stockholm are performing most useful service to their country but are in grave danger of being interned should Germany invade Sweden suddenly..

2. Association enquire "whether these men, as they are few in number, could be in some way included in the diplomatic staff so that in the event of the annexation of Sweden by the enemy they would be allowed to leave" with the Legation.

3. I shall be grateful for your ~~early~~ observations as to best means of helping journalists Shd. necessity arise.

JSSC
31/12

OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

17

N.7381/6067/42.
[Cypher].

OUT FILE

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 774.
31st December, 1941.

D. 12.15 a.m. 1st January, 1942.

////

Minister of Information has received a personal letter from the Newspaper Proprietors' Association stating that the British journalists in Stockholm are performing most useful service to their country but are in grave danger of being interned should Germany invade Sweden suddenly.

2. Association enquire "whether these men, as they are few in number, could be in some way included in the diplomatic staff so that in the event of the annexation of Sweden by the enemy they would be allowed to leave" with the Legation.

3. I shall be grateful for your observations as to best means of helping journalists should necessity arise.

INDIV.

BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. N7381/6067/42.

OUT FILE

17-1-42
S. of State 18

Draft. tel

Stockholm

No 29

Jan 16 date

en clair

Dept. No 1

Copy Min. W.E.

Nash, compe

Mny tel No 774 [of Dec 31:

Protection of British journalists

in Sweden]

Grateful early reply.

JSSC

16/1

OUT FILE

N7381/6064/42

19

END.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

[EN CLAIR] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO STOCKHOLM.

No. 29
16th January, 1942.

D. 5.00 a.m. 17th January, 1942.

kkkkk

My telegram No. 774 [of December 31st: Protection of British journalists in Sweden].

Grateful early reply.

F.O.
371

SOUTHERN

1941

Vatican

File h: 30

to Pk 5186.

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

30173

F.O. 371

SOUTHERN

1941

Vatican

File h: 30

to Pk 5186.

CLOSED UNTIL 1992

30173

1941

R

VATICAN

R 30

2 JAN 19

2

Registry Number R 30/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Kelly, Berne

No. 1670 A Decypher

Dated 30th Dec, 1940

Received in Registry 2nd Jan, 1941

Attitude of the Pope to the International Situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 86 of 25th December.

Pope's Christmas message seems quite satisfactory in view of his natural caution: probably for this reason he explained that the Church must preserve neutrality towards conflict with political systems. It must be noted, however, that he does condemn systems and practices which breed hatred and the principle that might is right.

The Pope will be told that his address was fully quoted by the British Broadcasting Corporation and a personal message of appreciation will be conveyed to him.

Last Paper.

R 9015/274/22 1940

References.

1) Berne telegram No 38 R (Minutes) 4 Jan 6th. (Vatican No 92 of Dec 28th).
2) Berne " " 123 of Jan: 16

(Print.)

A copy of the Pope's address is attached (flag B) and I have marked the passages to which Mr Osborne refers.

The main feature is the emphasis on the "new order" which will of course be exploited by Axis propaganda and with success until our own propaganda has succeeded in convincing people that we stand for something more than the shoring up of the capitalist system under the name of democracy.

This speech contains admirable propaganda material and it should not be difficult. Taking the Pope's points one by one, to show how perfectly the cap fits the head of our enemies and how we are striving to establish in practice the very principles enunciated by the Pope. A few quotations from speeches by the

(How disposed of.)

Desp tel. No Kelly, Berne no: 72 (for No Osborne no. 6) Jan. 22

Tel. to Berne no. 20 Jan. 7

(Action completed.) Dec 27th

(Index.) Index

Next Paper.

R783. 30173

20818 F.O.P.

the Minister of Labour should over point 4.
I am sure that the more radical we appear, the greater our hope of convincing.
In effect the Pope's address is what could be expected from a ~~neutral~~ convinced and determined neutral: and a message of appreciation seems to me rather out of place. But if our Ottawa colleagues think the Pope would like one, then we should certainly send it.

Liaison with Reilly.

P. L. Rose 2/1

The M.O.I. have, I think, been making good propaganda use out of the Pope's address.
Useful as it may be as a basis for propaganda, the address falls short of what we might have hoped the Pope would be ready to say in condemnation of German methods & objects, & I hardly think a message of appreciation is appropriate, or would stimulate His Holiness to greater frankness.

P. Dixon
2/1.

I have read through the Pope's address and I do not think that intrinsically it deserves a personal message of appreciation from the Secretary of State. Nevertheless it does contain points which, as Mr. Rose suggests, we can make very good use of and have in fact done so. I feel, therefore, that whether or not we say a word of appreciation to the Pope should depend entirely on whether or not by doing so we are likely to stimulate him to further efforts, which will be useful to us. As for this, only Mr. Osborne, I think, is in a position to advise, and I submit a draft telegram giving him discretion.

What a perusal of the Pope's address does reveal is the great necessity for us to come out on our side with some constructive alternative to Hitler's New Order. I do not know whether it would be worth while putting this point to the Cabinet Committee which is considering peace aims but I should have thought it might be worth while drawing their attention at least to the words of His Holiness.

Central Dept — January 4th, 1941 Orme Sargent

The S/S has this in hand
OS Jan 4

Jan 4 ab. Jan. 5. 1941.

It is, I think, worth noting that while the Italians have made all they good out of the Pope's address, the German protagonda has almost entirely neglected. This fact has been pointed out to the M.O.I. & B.B.C., who have. I think, made good use of all the material, but of course the most telling effect would be produced by some authoritative British endorsement of the ideals stated by the Pope.

A.W.G. Randall
10/1

Central Depts 10/1.
Soviet Sect

P.D.
10/1.

16/1 Wick 20/1.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Mr Osborne's tel. No. 9 of Jan. 13

The Pope's Christmas Address.

—

Mr Osborne is unable to guarantee that a message of appreciation from the S. of S. would have the effect of stimulating the Pope to further efforts. But thinks that His Holiness would be "influenced" as well as gratified by the delivery of the message on some suitable future occasion. This would no doubt be all to the good, and as Mr Osborne is apparently awaiting authority before acting on his suggestion, we might telegraph saying there is no objection.

Draft tel. herewith

W.R.C. Knight 18/1.

J.D. Dixon
18/1

Please now see S. of S's minute on the attached copy of this telegram.

I am sure it would be useful to let the Pope know that the S. of S. recalls their earlier acquaintanceship. I have added a sentence to the draft submitted herewith. J.D. Dixon

Minute 20/1.
20/1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

R

R 30

2 JAN 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

FROM: SWITZERLAND

Decypher. Mr. Kelly, (Berne). December 30th, 1940.

D. 8.41.p.m. December 30th, 1940.

R. 6.50.p.m. December 31st, 1940.

No. 1670.A.

———oOo———

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 86 December 25th.

The Pope's Christmas address seems to me quite satisfactory in view of his natural caution.

A 2. It is probably to meet critics on this score that he explains that the Church must preserve neutrality towards conflict with political systems. This is all right as a principle but it would be inadvisable to observe that such neutrality should not be carried on to point of ignoring indefensible methods and practices of any system.

B C D E 3. However His Holiness goes some way to meet any such objection by his condemnation of the systems and practices that breed hatred; of the deadly principle which renders precarious all international relations, that might is right and that self-interest is the basis and criterion of justice; and of cold-blooded egotism, arrogant in its strength, which violates not only the honour and sovereignty of states but also the wholesome and ordered liberties of man.

F 4. His fourth point, namely that there should be (gr. undec.)s for extreme economic inequalities, has been naturally quoted in extenso by Italian press while the other four were dismissed in a few words. I shall see The Pope on December 28th and I shall tell him that his address was fully and repeatedly quoted by the B.B.C. I think it would be useful if I could be authorised to convey to him subsequently a personal message of appreciation.

? remedies

F. O. REGISTRY

R.

R 30 / 30 / 57

8 JAN 1941

61

paper in dept

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Liaison Dept.

Decode. Mr. Kelly (Berne) 6th January, 1941.

D. 9.07 p.m. 6th January, 1941.

R. 5.20 a.m. 7th January, 1941.

PD 2/1.

No.38 (R).

[ ] [ ] [ ]

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.92 December 28th. Begins.

R 30/30/57

My telegram No.86.

I do not think the English summary of the Pope's address broadcast by the Vatican radio gave the following passage - "with tragic and almost fatal persistence the conflict, once unloosened, pursues its bloody path. It piles up ruins, does not spare venerated shrines, famous monuments or charitable institutions and, oblivious of the laws of humanity and careless of usages and conventions of war, goes sometimes to such lengths that a less disordered and agitated age will one day count its vicissitudes amongst saddest and darkest [group undecypherable] history of the world".

JAN 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

R. R 30 / 30 / 57 8 JAN 1941 61

paper in dept

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Liaison Dept.

Decode. Mr. Kelly (Berne) 6th January, 1941. PD. 2/1.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. R 30/30/57

OUT FILE

7.55AM 7, 1, 41 7

R

P.N.

Draft.

Mr. Kelly,
Berne.

Despatched *M.*

Telegram.

No. 20

Cypher.

Distribution B.

Your tel. No. 1670 A of December 30th: Pope's Christmas address.

Following for Mr. Osborne telegram No. 2 of January

Your tel. No. 86.

After reading the Pope's address in full as given on the Radio Vatican I am not convinced that intrinsically it deserves a personal message of appreciation from myself. On the other hand the points ~~mentioned~~ summarized in your telegram are undoutedly useful from our point of view and if you are convinced (but only in this case) that a word of appreciation would stimulate His Holiness to further efforts which would be of equal utility I am prepared to authorise you to convey an appropriate, confidential and personal message.

B. Jan 5

AB. Jan. 5/41.

JAN 6 PM 1941
REGISTRY

8

(R. 30/3057)

OUT FILE

DISTRIBUTION B

To: SWITZERLAND

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly (Berne)

Foreign Office, 7th January, 1941. 7.55 a.m.

No. 20

WJW

Your telegram No. 1670A [of December 30th: Pope's Christmas address].

Following for Mr. Osborne telegram No. 2 of January.

Your telegram No. 86.

After reading the Pope's address in full as given on the Vatican Radio I am not convinced that intrinsically it deserves a personal message of appreciation from myself. On the other hand the points summarized in your telegram are undoutedly useful from our point of view and if you are convinced (but only in this case) that a word of appreciation would stimulate His Holiness to further efforts which would be of equal utility I am prepared to authorise you to convey an appropriate, confidential and personal message.

R 9 2

R 30/30/57

18 JAN 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND

Decypher. Mr. Kelly, (Berne)
16th January 1941.

D. 9.1 p.m. 16th January 1941.
R. 9.30 a.m. 17th January 1941.

No. 123

///////

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 9 January 13th.

M. 20 to Berne 9 Jan. 7
R 30/30/57

Your telegram No. 2. (?)condolences

I cannot guarantee fulfilment of your [group undec.] so I shall say nothing. But in any case I think the Pope has received ample satisfaction in the quotation of his address by the B.B.C. and British prelates.

I should be glad however to be able to deliver the message from you should an occasion offer in future as I think he would be gratified and influenced by the indication of personal interest and regard.

18 JAN 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

10

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND

Decypher. Mr. Kelly, (Berne)

16th January 1941.

D. 9.1 p.m. 16th January 1941.
R. 9.30 a.m. 17th January 1941.

No. 123

///////

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 9 January 13th.

Your telegram No. 2.

I cannot guarantee fulfilment of your [group undec.] so I shall say nothing. But in any case I think the Pope has received ample satisfaction in the quotation of his address by the B.B.C. and British prelates.

I should be glad however to be able to deliver the message from you should an occasion offer in future as I think he would be gratified and influenced by the indication of personal interest and regard.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R30/30/57

WRCK 18/1

Draft.

Mr Kelly
Berne

Telegram.

No. 12

Cypher.

DV (11)

W+
ML

Distribution B.

Central Dep.t
Liaison Dep.t
Admin.
20/1

JN
20/1.

PD.
18/1.

22/1/41
10.40 am

11

OUT FILE

Despatched

M.

Following figures for Mr Osborne telegram No. 6 January 21

Your tel. No. 9, para 2. [of Jan. 13th: Pope's Christmas address].

No objections.

You may add that I recall with pleasure my personal ~~acquaintanceship~~ meeting with His Holiness ~~in before he became~~ Pope in earlier days.

JAN 21 PM 1941

Jan 21st

12

OUT FILE

(R 30/30/57)

DISTRIBUTION B

To: SWITZERLAND

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly (Berne)

Foreign Office, 22nd January, 1941. 10.40 a.m.

No. 72

www

Following figures for Mr. Osborne telegram No. 6 January 21st.

Your telegram No. 9 paragraph 2 [of January 13th: Pope's Christmas address].

No objection.

You may add that I recall with pleasure my personal meeting with His Holiness in earlier days.

2

R

13

1941

VATICAN

R 783

5 FEB 1941

Registry Number } R 783/30/57.

FROM Foreign Office Minute (Mr. Rendall)

No.

Dated 3rd Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry } 5th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of Pope to International situation.

Draft telegram to Berne containing message for Mr. Osborne No. 12. Italian wireless on 31st January announced that Pope had approved and blessed day of national prayer to obtain victory for Italy. According to Vatican wireless, February 2nd was appointed a day of prayer in the Rome Vicariate for the protection of Italian soldiers and there was no mention of Pope's blessing. Requests facts to be telegraphed.

Last Paper.

R 80.

References.

(Minutes.)

(Print.)

W.R.C.K 7/2

T.D. 7/2

(How disposed of.)

Tel. Berne No 144 Feb 3

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 18/2	8/2 3/3/41

Next Paper.

R 810

(R 1283/30/57)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No: R783/30/57

Draft.

to Mr. Kelly.
Rome.
144

Telegram.

Southern 9th 3.2.
Central Deptc.
Eastern.
3/2

We wrote MU

Cypher.

FEB 3 P.M. 1941

5.10 PM 3 14

OUT FILE

R 783

Despatched M.

1 IDVII Following for Mr. Osborne. 12

Italian wireless on Jan: 31st announced that Pope had approved and blessed day of national prayer to obtain victory for Italy.

According to Vatican wireless February 2nd was appointed a day of prayer for the Rome Vicariate for in the protection of Italian soldiers; and there was mention of Pope's blessing.

Please telegraph facts.

A. W. E. R.

De 1872

OUT FILE OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

15

DISTRIBUTION B.

R783/30/44

To: SWITZERLAND.

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly, (Berne).

Foreign Office 3rd February, 1941. 5.10 p.m.

No. 144.

eeeeeeee

Following for Mr. Osborne. 12.

Italian wireless on January 31st announced that Pope had approved and blessed day of national prayer to obtain victory for Italy. According to Vatican wireless February 2nd was appointed a day of prayer in the Rome Vicariate for the protection of Italian soldiers, and there was no mention of Pope's blessing. Please telegraph facts.

3

1941

R

VATICAN

16

R 810

6 FEB 194

Registry Number R 810/30/57

FROM Mr.Osborne, (Holy See).

No. 1 (8/1/41).

Dated

Received in Registry 7th Jan.1941. 6th Feb.1941.

R:Vatican.

English text of Pope's address of 24th December 1940.

Refers to Holy See telegram No.86 of 25th December, 1940 ((1) in R 30/30/57). Transmits copy of the Vatican's English translation of the whole of the Pope's address of 24th December. Submits comments on speech.

Last Paper.

R783.

References.

(Minutes.)

(Print.)

Print Southern Italy (B).

PRINTED

(How disposed of.)

8] M.O.I. ~~Feb~~ Mar 4

Mr Osborne had already quoted and commented on the salient points in the Pope's Christmas address in his Tel. No. 86 of Dec. 25, and this despatch does not reveal anything further of importance. It is, however, with its full text of the English translation of the address, valuable for purposes of record; and both despatch and enclosure must have entailed much labour on the part of Mr Osborne and his small staff.

(copy attached.)

Reg: (1) Thank. (2) Copy M.O.I.

A.R.C.Knight 10/2

Not necessary to circulate.

Print S(Holy) D in that enclosure.

There is a misprint on p. 4. "Table" should be corrected.

21190 F.O.P

Mr Nicholls has agreed that "table" should be retained. A.R.C.K. 15/2

JN 19/2.

(Action completed.)

DC 4/3

(Index.)

Doc 22/3/1941

Next Paper.

R 875

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

17

D

ITALY. February 6, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL. SECTION 1.

ARCHIVES

[R 810/30/57] Copy No. 8

Mr. Osborne to Mr. Eden.—(*Received February* 6.)

(No. 1.)

Sir, *Vatican City, January* 7, 1941.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 86 of the 25th December, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the Vatican's English translation of the whole of the Pope's address of the 24th December.(1) I am now informed that this entire text was broadcast in English by the Vatican radio later on the same day. I had been supplied with a number of extracts in English, and I had first understood that it was only these extracts that had been broadcast in English; hence my telegram No. 92 of the 28th December quoting the important passage in condemnation of indiscriminate bombing.

2. Section 7 of the address, containing this condemnation, is the first in which the Pope comes to discussion of non-spiritual issues, and this is an indication of the importance he attaches to his words. I fear, however, that the passage has not received the notice and publicity it deserves, or that His Holiness desired. I have since then strongly urged that the condemnation should be repeated in a separate and special admonition, and in even stronger terms, but I have been told that it is too soon for the Pope to repeat himself, and that no special occasion at present offers. I pointed out that since the Germans claim in their communiqués that British air attacks are always directed against civilians and non-military objectives, they could not complain that the condemnation of such a policy was directed against themselves alone. This is already the second recent occasion on which the Pope has stigmatised indiscriminate bombing (see my telegram No. 55 of the 26th November), but I fear these allusive references, embedded in a mass of spiritual and doctrinal matter, do not attract much attention or carry much weight, and I shall therefore continue to press for something more specific and more effective.

3. In Section 8 the Pope describes his efforts to help prisoners of war and internees, and refers implicitly to his difficulties with Germany and in Poland when he says "our aim has been frustrated in some countries." It is satisfactory that he is able to declare that he has received greater facilities in Egypt, Australia and Canada (see my telegram No. 87 of the 25th December). He also mentions the work carried on by the Secretariat of State in seeking and transmitting information about prisoners and refugees, and the Holy See's financial aid to "large numbers of refugees, expatriates and emigrants, including 'non-Aryans.'"

4. Sections 9 to 12 inclusive deal with the present state of the world, its future and the prerequisites of a just and durable peace. He reaffirms the validity of the five conditions of peace, which he formulated the preceding Christmas. He remarks that "from the impassioned polemics of the warring factions concerning the objectives of the war and the ultimate peace settlement" it clearly emerges that pre-war Europe is undergoing a transformation and facing a new era. None of the various parties desires a return to former conditions. The working classes particularly aspire towards a change. This general attitude is due to realisation of the defects of the prevailing system, and it is expressed in "a determined orientation towards a rearrangement that will secure the juridical bases of political and international life."

5. The Church, His Holiness explains, "in the midst of contrasting systems, which are a part of our times and dependent upon them," cannot be called upon to favour one more than another, since there is room for all. This is the old argument of the Church's transcendence of race and politics. It is a time-honoured and unassailable principle, but it did not, in his encyclicals of the

(1) Not printed.

14th and 19th March, 1937, deter Pius XI from outspoken and uncompromising criticism of nazism and communism in their attitude towards the Church, nor Pius XII himself from equally frank condemnation of statolatry and its consequences in his Encyclical *Summi Pontificatus* of the 20th October, 1939.

6. Tragic experience, he goes on, is now driving home lessons which, when preached by the Church, have fallen upon deaf ears. It is to be hoped that "the whole of humanity, and every nation in particular, will come out from the present sad and bloody school more wise, more experienced and mature; will be able to distinguish with clear vision truth from deceptive appearance; and will turn an attentive ear to the voice of reason, whether pleasant or not, and turn a deaf ear to the empty rhetoric of error; will form for itself a conviction of reality that will consider seriously the actuation of right and justice, not only when it is a question of seeking the fulfilment of its own requests, but also when the just requests of others must be satisfied." Only so can a worthy, stable and durable new order be fashioned. Only so can international discord be eliminated.

7. He then lists the five "indispensable prerequisites for such a new order." These are :—

(1) The triumph over hate dividing the nations, and the renunciation of systems and practices by which that hate is nourished, including an unbridled and lying propaganda that "holds up, day by day and almost hour by hour, to public opinion the enemy nations in a falsified and insulting light."

(2) The triumph over mistrust, "which bears down as a depressing weight on international law and renders impossible the realisation of any sincere agreement"; and so "a return to that fidelity in the observance of pacts without which it is impossible for the nations to live safely together, and especially for powerful and weak nations to exist side by side."

(3) "The triumph over the distressing principle that utility is the basis and law of rights and that might makes right : a principle which makes all international relations labile, to the detriment especially of those nations that, because of their traditional loyalty to peaceful methods, or their lesser capacity for war, will not or cannot fight with others." Therefore the return to an ordered morality as the criterion of international relations. This, however, does not exclude the pursuit of lawful and useful ends, nor the timely and justifiable use of force for the defence or restoration of peaceful rights. (This is slightly reminiscent of Hitler in his injured and plaintive mood.)

(4) The triumph over excessive economic inequalities, and a progressive advance, under guarantees, towards the allotment to every State of the means for assuring its people a proper standard of life. This was given chief publicity by the Fascist press.

(5) The triumph over cold-blooded and arrogant egoism, leading to the violation of the honour and sovereignty of States and the wholesome and ordered liberty of individuals. "It must be supplanted by a sincere juridical and economic solidarity, a fraternal collaboration, in accordance with the precepts of Divine law, amongst peoples assured of their autonomy and independence." So long as the clamour of war lasts, His Holiness adds, "it is scarcely possible to expect any definite acts in the direction of the restoration of morally and juridically imprescriptible rights. But it would be well to wish that henceforth a declaration of principle in favour of their recognition may be given to calm the agitation and the bitterness of so many who feel that they are menaced or injured in their very existence or in the free development of their activity." (To this suggestion it would be unwise to expect any answer from Hitler.)

I have, &c.

D. G. OSBORNE.

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY.

No. 1.

January 7th 1941.

(8/1/41)

R 810
6 JAN 1941

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 86 of December 25th, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the Vatican's English translation of the whole of the Pope's address of December 24th. I am now informed that this entire text was broadcast in English by the Vatican Radio later on the same day. I had been supplied with a number of extracts in English and I had first understood that it was only these extracts that had been broadcast in English; hence my telegram No. 92 of December 28th quoting the important passage in condemnation of indiscriminate bombing.

2. Section 7 of the address, containing this condemnation, is the first in which the Pope comes to discussion of non-spiritual issues and this is an indication of the importance he attaches to his words. I fear, however, that the passage has not received the notice and publicity it deserves, or that His Holiness desired. I have since then strongly urged that the condemnation should be repeated in a separate and special admonition, and in even stronger terms, but I have been told that it is too soon for the Pope to repeat himself and that no special occasion at present offers. I pointed out that since the Germans claim in their communiqués that British air attacks are always directed against civilians and non-military objectives, they could not complain that the condemnation of such a policy was directed against themselves alone.

This...

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.

This is already the second recent occasion on which the Pope has stigmatised indiscriminate bombing (see my telegram No. 55 of (1) in R 3040/3168/22 November 26th), but I fear these allusive references, embedded in a mass of spiritual and doctrinal matter, do not attract much attention or carry much weight, and I shall therefore continue to press for something more specific and more effective.

3. In Section 8 the Pope describes his efforts to help prisoners of war and internees, and refers implicitly to his difficulties with Germany and in Poland when he says, "our aim has been frustrated in some countries". It is satisfactory that he is able to declare that he has received greater facilities in Egypt, Australia and Canada. (See my telegram No. 87 of December 25th). He also mentions the work carried on by the Secretariat of State in seeking and transmitting information about prisoners and refugees, and the Holy See's financial aid to "large numbers of refugees, expatriates and emigrants, including 'non-aryans'".

KW 1/1(A) - with Sir O Sargeant.

4. Sections 9 to 12 inclusive deal with the present state of the world, its future and the prerequisites of a just and durable peace. He reaffirms the validity of the five conditions of peace which he formulated the preceding Christmas. He remarks that "from the impassioned polemics of the warring factions concerning the objectives of the war and the ultimate peace settlement" it clearly emerges that pre-war Europe is undergoing a transformation and facing a new era. None of the various parties desires a return to former conditions. The working classes particularly aspire towards a change. This general attitude is due to realisation of the defects of the prevailing system and it is expressed in "a determined orientation towards a rearrangement that will secure the juridical bases of political and international life.".

5. The Church, His Holiness explains, "in the midst of contrasting...

trasting systems, which are a part of our times and dependent upon them", cannot be called upon to favour one more than another, since there is room for all. This is the old argument of the Church's transcendance of race and politics. It is a time-honoured and unassailable principle, but it did not, in his Encyclicals of March 14th and 19th, 1937, deter Pius XI from outspoken and uncompromising criticism of Nazism and Communism in their attitude towards the Church, nor Pius XII himself from equally frank condemnation of statolatry and its consequences in his Encyclical Summi Pontificatus of October 20th, 1939.

6. Tragic experience, he goes on, is now driving home lessons which, when preached by the Church, have fallen upon deaf ears. It is to be hoped that "the whole of humanity and every nation in particular, will come out from the present sad and bloody school more wise, more experienced and mature; will be able to distinguish with clear vision truth from deceptive appearance; and will turn an attentive ear to the voice of reason, whether pleasant or not, and turn a deaf ear to the empty rhetoric of error; will form for itself a conviction of reality that will consider seriously the actuation of right and justice, not only when it is question of seeking the fulfilment of its own requests, but also when the just requests of others must be satisfied." Only so can a worthy, stable and durable new order be fashioned. Only so can international discord be eliminated.

7. He then lists the five "indispensable prerequisites for such a new order". These are:-

(1) The triumph over hate dividing the nations, and the renunciation of systems and practices by which that hate is nourished, including an unbridled and lying propaganda that "holds up, day by day and almost hour by hour, to public opinion the enemy nations in

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a falsified and insulting light."

(2) The triumph over mistrust, " which bears down as a depressing weight on international law and renders impossible the realisation of any sincere agreement"; and so "a return to that fidelity in the observance of pacts without which it is impossible for the nations to live safely together, and especially for powerful and weak nations to exist side by side."

(3) "The triumph over the distressing principle that utility is the basis and law of rights and that might makes right: a principle which makes all international relations labile, to the detriment especially of those nations that, because of their traditional loyalty to peaceful methods, or their lesser capacity for war, will not or cannot fight with others." Therefore the return to an ordered morality as the criterion of international relations. This, however, does not exclude the pursuit of lawful and useful ends, nor the timely and justifiable use of force for the defence or restoration of peaceful rights. (This is slightly reminiscent of Hitler in his injured and plaintive mood).

(4) The triumph over excessive economic inequalities, and a progressive advance, under guarantees, towards the allotment to every State of the means for assuring its people a proper standard of life. This was given chief publicity by the Fascist press.

(5) The triumph over cold-blooded and arrogant egoism, leading to the violation of the honour and sovereignty of States and the wholesome and ordered liberty of individuals. "It must be supplanted by a sincere juridical and economic solidarity, a fraternal collaboration, in accordance with the precepts of Divine law, amongst peoples assured of their autonomy and independence." So long as the clamour of war lasts, His Holiness adds, "it is scarcely possible to expect any definite acts in the direction of the restoration...

tion of morally and juridically imprescriptible rights. But it would be well to wish that henceforth a declaration of principle in favour of their recognition may be given to calm the agitation and the bitterness of so many who feel that they are menaced or injured in their very existence or in the free development of their activity." [(To this suggestion it would be unwise to expect any answer from Hitler.)]

Omit in printing

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Dawson

Enclosure in Mr. Osborne's Despatch
No. 1. of January 7th 1941.

C O P Y.

WISHES AND PRAYERS.

Thanks, venerable Brethren and beloved sons, thanks We say to you from the bottom of our heart, for the precious gift of your presence here on this vigil of Holy Christmas; thanks We say with deepfelt gratitude, for your fervent prayers pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (for the Church and the Pope); your wishes and your prayers have had an able and eloquent interpreter in the esteemed doyen of the Sacred College, so close to Our heart and so worthy of Our esteem and affection. The abundance of your Christmas gifts is all the sweeter to Our soul for the greater sorrow of the times in which We live.

To you in turn go out Our paternal affection, Our wishes, accompanied and enhanced by Our prayers to God, for the coming feasts and for the new year; to you whom in His kindly Providence, Our Lord has called to Our side as counsellors wise and faithful, tried and ready for the service of dominicus grex (the flock of the Lord); to you who, as members of the Roman Curia, have a deep appreciation and knowledge of the important mission of collaborating and participating, each in his own office and in his own sphere, in the all-embracing pastoral care of the Vicar of Jesus Christ.

On you all collectively and individually, on each of you, ministers and guardians of the city seated on a mountain (Matt.5, 14), on all of you who, more than others, have the task of making your own and putting into action the advice of Our Lord: let your light shine before men, We implore from the Eternal and Supreme

Priest...

Priest in an epoch so eventful even for the Church and for the souls entrusted to her, what He asked from the Father for His Apostles in an hour at once solemn and holy: "Holy Father, keep them in Thy name .... I pray not that Thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldst keep them from evil .....sanctify them in truth (John 17,11, 15, 17).

2. Christmas Joy.

This morning Venerable Brethren and beloved sons, the wonderful liturgy of Holy Church has raised the hearts of her priests on high with the words of the Roman Martyrology:.... On the seven hundred and fifty second year from the foundation of Rome, on the forty second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus, while all the world was at peace....Jesus Christ, Eternal God, and Son of the Eternal Father, wishing to consecrate the world by His most pious coming, conceived by the Holy Ghost.....inBethlehem of Juda is born of the Virgin Mary, being made man.

When the solemn tone of this happy message, that unites Rome to Bethlehem, the holy birth of Our Saviour with the birth of that inclita Roma (famous Rome), that in its highest and most sacred destiny not through martial glory but through the victories of divine grace, will extend its rule to the earth, but men's minds to Olympus (Virg. Aeneid VI, 782-783); when this forecast announcement of the coming of the heavenly King in the age when all the world was tranquil and at peace sounds anew in the ears of the faithful of Christ, it awakens and arouses in millions of hearts in all peoples and nations the memory of our redemption from sin. Like an all-embracing heavenly symphony from all tongues arises to heaven a hymn of jubilation, a song of adoration from humble and grateful hearts: Christ is born for us: come, let us adore (Matins, Christmas Day). It is

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the undying song of liberty of the exiled children of Eve, who almost forget the sorrow of their paradise, lost through the guilt of their parents; the thorns and the tribulations that the earth, profaned by sin, shoots forth since the fall of Adam; and before the heavenly Infant in the stable of Bethlehem, before the Virgin Mother of the newly born Emmanuel, they prostrate themselves in the dust, overcome and full of a holy wonder at the admirable designs of divine Providence.

The Holy joy of the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, the intimate happiness, which rises spontaneously in the hearts of the faithful of Christ does not depend upon external events, nor can it be diminished or disturbed by them; Christmas joy, that fills them with gladness and with peace, has its roots so deep, and raises its head to such heights, that it cannot be torn loose by the whirlwind of any earthly event, whether the world be at peace or at war. The consoling truth of Our Saviour's words: your heart shall rejoice; and your joy no man shall take from you (John 16,22) - who can feel that truth and experience it better than he who, with sincere heart, with a will purified, and with an open mind listens to the song of peace to men of good will addressed to the earth from the crib, that first pulpit of the divine Word made flesh?

3. Optimism and Pessimism.

Whosoever grasps the intimate meaning of the Christmas hymn and has tested even one drop of the sweet nectar of truth and of love, which it contains, knows where, amidst the confused succession of events, sufferings and sorrows of these tempestuous days, he may find a haven of safety; and he will refrain as much from undue optimism, which disregards reality, as from the still less apostolic tendency towards a cowardly and depressing pessimism.

Does he not perhaps know that the life and activity of the Church, like the life and activity of Our Redeemer, are always surrounded with snares by the satellites of the jealous and trembling Herodian power. But he will not forget, too, that the mysterious star of grace shines in the sky, and that it will return to shine on those souls who eagerly seek the cradle of God, to guide them from falsity to truth, from error to faith in Christ our Saviour.

4. Unshakeable faith in Christ's final triumph.

Conscious of the insidious audacity of the evil that spreads everywhere in this life, the true follower of Christ feels within him a lively urge to greater vigilance both over himself and for brothers in danger. Sure as he is of God's promise, and of the final triumph of Christ and His Kingdom over His enemies, he feels himself fortified within against delusions and failures, defeats and humiliations, and he can inspire equal confidence in all those whom he approaches in his apostolic ministry, thus making himself their spiritual bulwark; while he offers encouragement and example to all those who are tempted to give up and to lose heart before the number and the might of the enemy. And let us be infinitely grateful to Our Lord that in this our own day the Church is not lacking in such elect, saintly and courageous souls - found alike in the ranks of the clergy and laity - who give strong evidence of a heroism, generally overlooked by the world, and of an unwavering fidelity in the midst of others that fall into pusillanimity and weakness, put into effect the exhortation of the Prophet: Strengthen ye the feeble hands, and confirm the weak knees, Say to the faint-hearted: Take courage and fear not: behold your God will bring the revenge of recompense: God himself will come and will save you (Isaias 35, 3.4).

5. Weak souls and stout hearts.

But...

But among Christians there are not lacking, alas, those who, beneath the daily weight of sacrifices and trials of all kinds, in a world that goes far away from faith and morality, or at least from fervour of faith and of Christian morality, are losing something of that spiritual vigour, of that joy and confidence - as well in the inner exercise of their faith as in its outward profession - without which a true and vital thinking with the Church can never be sustained or last for long. You see them from time to time, perhaps without adverting to it, succumb and make themselves the sponsors of concessions or theories, of thoughts or prejudices that, originating in circles strange and hostile to the Church, come to ensnare the souls of believers. People of such mentality suffer even to see Mother Church - to which at bottom they would like to remain true - not understood before the Pretorium of Pilate, or in the garments of ridicule among the servants of Herod. They believe in the mystery of the Cross; but they forget to meditate on it, and apply it to our age. In the brilliant and consoling hours of Thabor they feel near to Christ; in the sad and dark hours of Gethsemane they become too easily imitators of the sleeping Apostles. And when the authorities of this earth put in motion their external power, as the ministers of the sanhedrin did to Jesus, we see them withdraw in fainthearted flight, or what is just the same, retire from their frank and courageous resolves.

All this vacillation of others, Venerable Brethren and beloved sons, cannot and must not cause us wonder or disturbance; much less lead us to forget the exemplary courage and stirring fidelity with which countless sons of Ours, thanks to divine aid, hold fast and firmly anchored, stronger than all the storms, to the stout rock of their faith and to the Church, the guardian, depository...

ory and infallible teacher of truth. Accordingly, with sincere thanks to the Most High, and with fatherly pride in the victory of so many and such noble children of every condition and class, We do not hesitate to say that conscientiousness, fervour, the unconditional and wholehearted surrender to Christ and to His Kingdom are virtues that have grown visibly in many, many souls in the places where the profession of the faith costs sacrifices, never before recognised.

6. New demands of the Apostolate.

But wha tever be the ratio, known only to God, between victories and defeats, between souls that are saved and souls that are lost, it is not less true and certain that the material and spiritual condition of the present age brings into being, and imposes upon the apostolate, enormous demands, not only for the duration of this dreadful war, but still more for that day at the conclusion of the war, when peoples will be obliged to dedicate themselves to the task of repairing the deep-seated evils which will be their bitter social and economic heritage; when disorganised nations find themselves at the war's conclusion, with spiritual wounds which will certainly demand assiduous and watchful care, that their pernicious effects may be forestalled or minimised.

7. Sad pages in the history of the World.

With tragic and almost fatal persistence the conflict, once let loose, proceeds on its bloody way, piles up ruin, spares not venerable churches, famous monuments, refugees of charity, and in easy forgetfulness of the principles of humanity, in indifference to the usages and conventions of war, goes to such extremes at times, that an age less topsy turvy and upset than ours will one day note its events among the saddest and darkest pages of the world's history.

Our thought runs forward anxiously to the moment when the sad

chronicle...

chronicle of so many sufferings - of bodies torn, of minds in anguish, of wounded, prisoners, refugees, downtrodden, famished, fainting, missing - that chronicle to-day unknown or but partly known, will come in its entirety to light. But what we know at present is already sufficient to oppress and to tear the heart. For the wives and the mothers of more than one nation We seem to hear resound the sorrowful cry of the Prophet, that the sacred Liturgy recalls during the octave of Christmas: A voice in Rama was heard, lamentation and great mourning: Rachel bewailing her children, and would not be comforted because they are not (Matthew 2, 18).

8. Prisoners - the missing - refugees.

But among the many misfortunes arising from this cruel conflict, one in particular immediately brought sorrow to Our heart and continues to grieve Us - namely, the misfortune of the prisoners of war, which has become progressively more distressing for Us, with the ever-diminishing possibility of Our hastening, in Our paternal solicitude, to bring aid, through efficacious relief and consolation, where the victims are most numerous and misery most pitiable. Mindful of what We Ourselves in the August Name of the Sovereign Pontiff, Benedict XV of happy memory, w ere able to accomplish during the last war for the relief of the material and moral distress of many prisoners, We had hoped that in the present instance, as well, there might be left open a way for the religious and charitable initiative of the Church.

However, although Our aim has been frustrated in some countries, Our efforts were not everywhere in vain, since We have succeeded in bringing many material and spiritual evidences of Our concern to at least a portion of the Polish prisoners; and

indeed...

indeed, other and more frequent evidences of that same solicitude to Italian prisoners and internees, especially in Egypt, Australia and Canada.

Nor was it Our desire that the Holy Feast of Christmas should dawn on the world without Our conveying, through the medium of Our Representatives, some definite manifestation of Our encouraging remembrance and benediction to the English and French prisoners in Italy, the Germans in England, the Greeks in Albania and the Italians scattered through the various parts of the British Empire, especially in Egypt, Palestine and India.

Eager, therefore, to make Our own the anxieties of families fearful for the lot of their separated and unfortunate relations, We have undertaken and are actively advancing and developing yet another task, of no small magnitude, namely, that of requesting and transmitting information, where it is possible and permissible to do so, not only concerning countless prisoners, but also concerning refugees and those whom the present calamities have so sadly separated from fatherland and home. In this way, We have been able to feel close to Our own the beat of thousands of hearts with the disturbed tumult of their most intimate feelings either in strained tension or under the terrible incubus of uncertainty, or in the exultant joy of renewed assurance, or in profound suffering and quiet resignation regarding the fate of their loved ones.

No less comforting is it to Us to have been in a position to console, with the moral and spiritual assistance of Our Representatives or with the offerings of Our resources, large numbers of refugees, expatriates and emigrants, including "non-aryans"; We were enabled in Our aid to those of Polish origin to be especially generous, as also to those others for whom the charitable contribution...

tribution of Our children in the United States facilitated Our paternal solicitude.

9. The presuppositions of a just and lasting peace.

Exactly one year ago, Venerable Brethren and Beloved Sons, in this very place, We formulated certain principles with regard to the essential presuppositions of a peace which would conform to the principles of justice, equity and honour, and would thus be enduring. And if the succeeding march of events has delayed their application to a more distant time, the thoughts then proposed have, nevertheless, lost none of their intrinsic truth and conformity to reality, nor of their force of moral obligation.

10. Aspirations after a new order.

To-day We find Ourselves faced with a fact of some consequence as a symptom. From the impassioned polemics of the warring factions concerning the objectives of the war and the ultimate peace settlement there emerges ever more clearly defined a quasi universal opinion which contends that the pre-war Europe, as well as its political structure, are now undergoing a process of transformation of such a nature as to signal the dawn of a new era. Europe and its system of states, it is said, will not be as they were before; something new, better, more evolved, organically more sound, freer and stronger must replace the past, in order to eliminate its defects, its weakness and its deficiencies, which are said to have been convincingly disclosed by recent events.

True it is that the various parties differ in their ideas and aims; they agree however in their desire for a new arrangement, and they do not consider possible or desirable a simple return to former conditions.

Nor is the rerum novarum cupiditas (desire for novelty) sufficient...

ficient to explain such currents of opinion and such sentiments. In the light of the experiences of our age of travail, under the overpowering pressure of the sacrifices that it demands and imposes, new knowledge and nascent aspirations captivate the mind and soul. A sun-clear knowledge of the defects of the present day. A determined orientation towards a rearrangement that will secure the juridical bases of political and international life. No one can be surprised that this pulsating desire is felt more keenly by those large sections that live by manual labour, and who are always bound, in peace and war, to taste more than others the bitter results of economic dislocation, internal or international; less still will the Church be surprised, she who as Mother of all alike, has a special appreciation and understanding of the cry that escapes spontaneously from the tortured soul of mankind.

11. <u>The attitude and activity of the Church.</u>

In the midst of contrasting systems, which are a part of our times and dependent upon them, the Church cannot be called upon to favour one more than another. In the orbit of the universal value of divine law, whose authority obliges not only individuals but nations as well, there is ample room and liberty of action for the most varied forms of political opinion: whilst the practical application of one political system or another depends in large measure, and often quite decisively, upon circumstances and causes, which considered in themselves are extraneous to the purpose and action of the Church. As protectress and herald of the principles of faith and morals, it is her sole interest and sole longing to convey, through educational and religious channels, to all peoples without exception the clear waters of the fountain of the patrimony and values of Christian life; in order that every people, in its own peculiar way, may enjoy Christian fellowship and

Christian...

Christian ethical-religious impulses to establish a society that would be humanly praiseworthy, spiritually elevated and a source of genuine good.

More than once the Church has had to preach to deaf ears; stern reality preaches now in its turn, and to its cry, Erudimini (be taught) ears are turned attentively that were hitherto deaf to the motherly voice of the Spouse of Christ. Straitened times are often, more than times of prosperity, rich in valuable lessons just as adversity is often a better teacher than easy success. Vexation alone shall make you understand what you hear (Isias 28, 19). And let us hope in God that the whole of humanity and every nation in particular, will come out from the present sad and bloody school more wise, more experienced and mature; will be able to distinguish with clear vision truth from deceptive appearance; and w ill turn an attentive ear to the voice of reason, whether pleasant or not, and turn a deaf ear to the empty rhetoric of error; will form for itself a conviction of reality that will consider seriously the actuation of right and justice, not only when it is a question of seeking the fulfilment of its own requests, but also when the just requests of others must be satisfied.

12. The conditions for a true and solid rearraggement.

Only in such dispostions of mind can there flow into the attractive phrase, a new order, a content beautiful worthy, stable based on the norms of morality; and only so will be avoided the danger of conceiving it or fashioning it as a purely external mechanism imposed by force, without dignity, without value. Then one can give to mankind a new hope that shall calm it, an aim that shall answer to noble aspirations; and the power hidden and open, oppressive and ruinous, of chronic discord that now weighs

on...

on the world will disappear.

But the indispensable prerequisites for such a new order are:

1. The triumph over hate, which is to-day a cause of division amongst peoples: the renunciation, therefore, of systems and practices from which that hate constantly receives added nourishment. In fact, at present in certain passages an unbridled propaganda and one that does not shrink from altering the truth holds up, day by day and almost hour by hour, to public opinion the enemy nations in a falsified and insulting light. But anyone who is genuinely anxious for the welfare of the people, who wishes to co-operate in preserving from incalculable harm the spiritual and moral bases of the future collaboration of the peoples, will reckon it a sacred duty and a noble mission not to let be lost, from the thought and feelings of men, the natural ideals of truth, justice, courtesy, cooperation in well-doing, and above all the sublime supernatural ideal of brotherly love brought to the world by Christ.

2. The triumph over mistrust, which bears down as a depressing weight on international law and renders impossible the realisation of any sincere agreement; a return then to the principle: <u>Faith the incorrupt sister of Justice</u> (<u>Horace</u> Ode 1, 24, 6-7); to that fidelity in the observance of pacts without which it is impossible for the nations to live safely together, and especially for powerful and weak nations to exist side by side. <u>The foundation</u>, said the ancient Roman wisdom, <u>the foundation of justice is faith, that is constancy and truth in what we have said and agreed</u> (<u>Cicero</u>, De Officiis 1, 7, 23).

3. The triumph over the distressing principle that utility is the basis and law of rights and that might makes right: a principle which makes all international relations labile, to the detriment

especially ...

especially of those nations that, because of their traditional loyalty to peaceful methods or their lesser capacity for war, will not or cannot fight with others; the return, therefore, to a serious and profound morality in the norms regulating the relations between nations; this evidently does not exclude one from seeking what is at once lawful and useful, nor does it exclude use in season and according to law of force to defend pacific rights violently attacked or to repair the harm that has been done to them.

4. The triumph over those germs of conflict which consist in too strident differences in the field of world economy; hence a progressive action, balanced by correspondent guarantees, to arrive at an arrangement which would give to every state the medium necessary for insuring a proper standard of living for its own citizens of every rank.

5. The triumph over the spirit of cold egoism, which fearless in its might, easily leads to the violation not only of the honour and sovereignty of states but of the righteous, wholesome and disciplined liberty of citizens as well. It must be supplemented by a sincere juridical and economic solidarity, a fraternal collaboration in accordance with the precepts of divine law, amongst peoples assured of their autonomy and independence. As long as the rumble of armaments continues in the stark reality of this war it is scarcely possible to expect any definite acts in the direction of the restoration of morally and juridically imprescriptible rights. But it would be well to wish that henceforth a declaration of principle in favour of their recognition may be given to calm the agitation and the bitterness of so many who feel that they are menaced or injured in their very existence or in the free development of their activity.

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13. Exhortation to prayer.

Venerable brethren and beloved sons! In the moment, wished for by all, but which as yet cannot be fixed by human judgment, when the guns will be silent, and the effects of this gigantic conflict will be engraved in the paragraphs of the peace treaty, We express the heartfelt wish that humanity and those who will show it the way along which it is to move forward will be sufficiently matured intellectually and capable in action, to prepare the ground of the future for a new order that will be solid, true and just. We pray God that it may so happen. And We appeal to you all to join your prayers to Ours that the light and the protection of the Almighty may preserve those in whose hands will be placed decisions of such great importance for the tranquillity of the world, and so fraught with consequence, from repeating in another form old errors, and from falling into the defects of the past, misdirecting - even without knowing or wishing it - the future of the peoples and even of their own nation on a road where there will be no true order to be found, but only fears and the grounds of new calamities. May they on whose perspicacity, willpower, foresight and moderation will depend the happiness or unhappiness of peoples, allow themselves to be led by the light of the well-known maxim! He conquers twice, who in victory conquers himself (Publilii Syri Sententiae, Leipsic, 1864, n.64).

We place in the small, omnipotent, merciful hands of the newly-born Redeemer, with confidence unlimited and unshakeable, Our desires, Our hopes and Our prayers; and We ask Him with you, with all priests, with all the faithful of Holy Church, with all those who in Christ recognise Our Lord and Saviour, to free mankind from the discords into which the war has brought it: O Root of ~~Jesus~~ Jesse,

who...

who standest as the ensign of the people, before whom kings shall not open their lips; to whom the Gentiles shall pray: come and deliver us, tarry no more now. (Roman Breviary, Greater Antiphon before Christmas Eve). With these anxious words on our lips, and this intention in Our heart, We impart to you, Venerable Brethren and beloved sons, to all Our children of the whole world, and especially to the war victims of every nation, as a pledge of abundant divine grace, with paternal affection Our apostolic Benediction.

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Registry Number R 875/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly (Berne).

No. 309.

Dated 6th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 8th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged stories of statements on the war made by Pope.

Mr. Leigh Smith has been in correspondence with Mr. Osborne regarding various reports in Swiss Press attributing views to prominent ecclesiastics. Most important of these stories allege that Pope had sent them. France should conclude peace with the Axis Powers forthwith. Mr. Osborne has been assured that such stories are untrue.

Last Paper.

R 810

References.

(*Minutes.*)

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Tel. Berne no. 193
Feb: 12

In accordance with Sir O. Sargent's suggestion on the extra copy of this telegram, written, I attach a draft tel. to Berne, for Mr Osborne, asking him to provoke an official démenti [if he sees no strong objection].

W.R. Knight 8/2

JN.
9/2.

I have now added at Mr Nichols' request a paragraph (confidential) dealing with the Nuncio's ~~demand~~ appeal to the French Ambassador at Berne (C 1168/324/18). WRK 10/2

[not available]

21190 F.O.P.

copy attached

RAM 10/2

Cadogan

JN 10/2

WRK 16/2

(Action completed.)

De 3/3

(Index.)

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Next Paper.

R 1163

R

39

R 875
8 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly, (Berne).
6th February, 1941.

D. 9.58 p.m. 6th February, 1941.
R. 2.20 a.m. 7th February, 1941.

No. 309.

ddddddd

Mr. Leigh Smith has been in correspondence with His Majesty's Minister to the Vatican regarding various reports in Swiss press attributing views to prominent ecclesiastics. Most important of these stories allege that the Pope had said that France in order to avoid complete collapse should conclude peace with the Axis Powers forthwith. (According to French sources this story is circulating in France with bad effect).

Osborne has been assured by the Cardinal Secretary of State that this story and other less important ones is completely untrue.

Osborne adds that it is believed all these stories emanate from a journalist who was dismissed some time ago from Osservatore Romano.

F.O. REGISTRY

DC 3/13

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R 875/30/57

Fair
Draft.

Mr. Kelly,

Berne.

Telegram.

No.....193

Cypher. GAK

Dist. B.

Central Dept.

ROOM
1 FEB 1941
FOREIGN OFFICE

Feb. 1941. 40

OUT FILE

Despatched 3.55 pm 12/2 *M.*

Your tel. No. 309.

Please put to H.M. Minister at the Vatican that the Vatican might be asked to issue an official démenti and let me know his views as to the possibility of this being done.

2. I take it that you have informed H.M. Minister at the Vatican of substance of your tel. No. 312. Mr. Osborne should be asked to find an opportunity of pointing out to Cardinal Secretary of State how harmful such activities are to Vatican interests.

Sec 11

R 875/30/57.

OUT FILE

DISTRIBUTION B.

To: SWITZERLAND.

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly, (Berne).

Foreign Office, 12th February, 1941. 3.55 p.m.

No. 193.

mmmmmm

Your telegram No. 309.

Please put to His Majesty's Minister at the Vatican that the Vatican might be asked to issue an official démenti and let me know his views as to the possibility of this being done.

2. I take it that you have informed His Majesty's Minister at the Vatican of substance of your telegram No. 312. Mr. Osborne should be asked to find an opportunity of pointing out to Cardinal Secretary of State how harmful such activities are to Vatican interests.

5

R

1941

VATICAN

R 1163 42

16 FEB 1941

Registry Number: R 1163/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 360 Decypher.

Dated 14th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 16th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged stories of statements on the war by the Pope: proposed official démenti.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No.193 of 12th February (R 875/30/57).

Reports that the matter is being passed on to His Majesty's Ambassador at the Vatican, to whom the substance of Berne telegram No.312 was communicated by Mr. Leigh Smith on 8th February.

Last Paper.

R875.

References.

C 11681/324/18.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

W.R.C.K 17/2.

(Action completed.) DC 1/3

(Index.) Off 273

Next Paper.

R1165

20818 F.O.P.

R

43

DISTRIBUTION B.

From SWITZERLAND.

R 1163

16 FEB 1941

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne)

14th February, 1941

D. 6.30 p.m. 14th February, 1941.
R. 12.35 a.m. 15th February, 1941.

No. 360.

vvvvvvv

Your telegram No.193. R875/43/57

The matter is being passed on to His Majesty's Minister at the Vatican to whom the substance of my telegram 312 was communicated by Mr. Leigh Smith on February 8th.

C 1169/3/18

AE 1/3

18 FEB 1941 REGISTRY

6

R

1941

VATICAN

R 1165

16 FEB 1941

44

Registry Number R 1165/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Campbell, Belgrade.

No. Decypher. 239.

Dated 14th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 16th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the war.

Nuncio recently returned from Rome reports that he urged the Pope to try to promote an early peace, but that the latter had been reluctant to move without prospect of success. Nuncio still felt some attempt should be made, adding that German ~~Minister~~ had said he had no reason to think Hitler did not regret war with Great Britain or still require settlement. Hoped common disposition towards peace might be found which would warrant Pope's intervention.

Report comes from X that Vatican are now actively supporting Fascist régime, even sending large numbers of priests to the Army to stiffen the morale.

Last Paper.

R 1163

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. Berne no: 243 Feb: 21

(Minutes.)

This makes depressing reading, taken in connexion with a recent similar démarche on the part of the Nuncio at Berne (C 1168/344/18), regarding which H.M. Minister at the Vatican has been instructed to make representations to the Cardinal S. of S. (cm R 875/30/57).

We might repeat this tel. to Berne, for Mr Osborne, and ask for his observations, authorizing him at the same time to make use of this new material, at his discretion, in his representations to the Vatican authorities.

Dft. tel. submitted herewith.

W.R.C. Knight 17/2

Comm. for Wkly Vat.

J Eggett

S Nicholls 20/2

W.R.C.K. 1/3

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 3/3	Doc 27/3

Next Paper.

R 1282

R

45

R 1165

16 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: YUGOSLAVIA.

Decypher. Mr. Campbell. (Belgrade) 14th February, 1941.

D. 10.45 p.m. 14th February, 1941.

R. 8.50 a.m. 15th February, 1941.

No. 239. - - - - - -

IMPORTANT.

Nuncio who has just returned from Rome where he saw the Pope and Secretary of State told a friendly colleague that he had urged the Pope to try to promote early peace but that latter had been reluctant to move without prospect of success. Nuncio said to my colleague he still felt some attempt ought to be made adding that German Minister had said he had no reason to think Hitler did not still regret war with Great Britain or still desire settlement. Could my colleague mention the matter to me in the hope that common disposition towards peace might be found which would warrant the Pope's intervention?

2. It is not clear whether Nuncio has taken initiative himself, to acting on behalf of the Pope or on behalf of the Italian or the German Governments.

3. Nuncio told my colleague that the Italian people now realised that they must pull themselves together adding that change would soon be seen in the conduct of the war against Greece. (I have reason to think he may have hoped this remark would reach Greek Government through my colleague).

4. X... stated on February 11th that Vatican are now actively supporting Fascist régime; priests were being sent in large numbers to the Army to stiffen [the] morale (See also INTEL 288 of 1940 first paragraph).

Copy attached

Seen Thurd at M.V.F.P.

FEB

REGISTRY

De 313

Registry No. R1165/30/57

W.L.C.K.

Draft.

Telegram.

Mr Skelly,
Berne IDV (11)

No. 243

Cypher IDV(11) W+ML

W+ML

Distribution B

ROOM 46
21 FEB 1941
P.M.
FOREIGN OFFICE

2 20 pm 21/2/41

46

OUT FILE ~~F.O.~~

February . 1941.

Important

Please pass following figures to Mr Osborne.

Tel. No. 23 begins is last ¶

Following ~~received~~ ¶ No 239 begins

~~from~~ Belgrade*:-

[Insert text of Belgrade No. 239 down to "stiffen ~~the~~ morale"].

Please telegraph your observations. Meanwhile you ~~made~~ named in the ~~are~~ If this new material ~~of good dis-~~ ~~action~~ the in your representations which you have been ~~asked~~ requested through H.M. Minister at Berne.

Co

to make ui connexion with a recent similar approach by the Nuncio there:

DR Peters

OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

47

R.1165/30/57.

DISTRIBUTION B.

OUT FILE

To: SWITZERLAND.

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly, (Berne).
Foreign Office, 21st February, 1941. 2.20 p.m.
No. 243.

gggggggggg

IMPORTANT.

Please pass following figures to Mr. Osborne.
Telegram No. 23 begins.
Following is text of Belgrade telegram No. 239:- Begins.
[Insert text of Belgrade No. 239 down to "stiffen morale"].
Please telegraph your observations. Meanwhile you should make use of this new material in the representations which you have been requested through His Majesty's Minister at Berne to make in connexion with a recent similar approach by the Nuncio there.

7

R

1941

VATICAN

R 1282

19 FEB 1941

48

Registry Number } R 1282/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly (Berne).

No. 388 Decypher.

Dated 17th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry } 19th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged stories of statements on the war made by the Pope.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No.193 (R 875/30/57). Has been informed by Nuncio that as a result of a protest from the Vatican, the Swiss Vice-President has severely admonished the Director of the Swiss Telephonic Agency for giving newspapers unchecked stories from Rome atrributing political views and statements to the Pope.

Gives summary of the Nuncio's views on the general situation.

Last Paper.

R 1165

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

The Swiss Vice-President's action was certainly called for.

When we are told, as in this instance, that such views represent the Nuncio's personal opinion, they have considerably less importance than seems to be the case when they are fathered on the Vatican or even the Pope himself.

W.R.C.Knight 20/2

Central Dept.

C.G. 22/2 R.M.B. 20/2.

(Action completed.) JE 24/2

(Index.) JR 27/3

Next Paper.

R 1283

21190 F.O.P.

49

R

R 1282

19 FEB 194

DISTRIBUTION B.

From SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne).
17th February, 1941.

D. 8.52 p.m. 17th February, 1941.
R. 6.10 a.m. 18th February, 1941.

No. 388.

rrrrrrrrr

Your telegram No. 193. R875/30/57 (8 Feb 12) paper in Dept. copy of ref: attached

Nuncio today volunteered to me that as a result of protest from the Vatican, Swiss Vice-President had severely admonished the Director of the Swiss Telephonic Agency for giving newspapers unchecked stores from Rome attributing political views and statements to the Pope.

C 1168/324/18

Being curious regarding the accuracy of the report in my telegram No. 312, I questioned the Nuncio closely for his present views on general situation and the following is summary:-

(1) Fascism will be transformed or destroyed by returned Italian soldiers after the war. It has exhausted its capacity and committed a fatal error in Military Pact with Germany in 1938. It is, however, a delusion to expect a revolution against Facism during the war, since this would mean seizure by Germany and Yugoslavia of all Italian gains from the last war in the event either of German victory or a compromise peace.

(2) German victory is no longer possible, but real German defeat is equally unlikely. Nuncio's personal opinion is that compromise peace is the eventual outcome and that the only question is what degree of ruin and exhaustion will have been reached on both sides by that time, as the action of Russia will depend on this.

(3) He is inclined to think personally that Franco's visit to Mussolini was merely intended to revive Mussolini's shaken prestige in Italy and that in the present circumstances no practical result could have been hoped for.

He added that though he had no means of knowing what Hitler really thought, it was a fact that the latter had in private conversation said that (a) invasion of England was like using a gun with one shot, (b) that he had never really changed his views about Russia, and (c) disliked the thought of the Japanese turning white race out of Asia.

F.O. REGISTRY

DE 24/2

8

R

1941

VATICAN

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R 1283

19 FEB 1941

Registry Number } R 1283/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly (Berne).

No. 398 Decypher.

Dated 17th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry } 19th Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope to the International situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne's telegram No.21 of 13th February.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No.12 to the Vatican No.144 to Berne of the 3rd February (R 783/30/57.). Reports that the Rome Vicariat has ordered that in the Churches of Rome on Sunday, 2nd February, there should be an hour of prayer for Divine Blessing upon the Fatherland, and the souls of those who had died in the war.

This has nothing to do with the Pope and there was no Papal Blessing.

Last Paper.
(R 783/30/57)
R 1282

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

This disposes entirely of a particularly malicious rumour, which, together with others similar to it, have recently been ~~denied~~ denied by the Vatican Radio and the 'Osservatore Romano'

W.R.C.Knight
20/2

R.U.S.
21/2

(Action completed.)
DC 21/2

(Index.)
DK 2/3

Next Paper.

R 1398

21190 F.O.P.

R

51

R 1283
19 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION A.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne).
18th February, 1941.

D. 9.06 p.m. 17th February, 1941.

R. 7.40 a.m. 18th February, 1941.

No. 398.

kkkkkkkkkk

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 21 of February 13th.

Your telegram No. 12. R783/30/57

Rome Vicariat ordered that in the Churches of Rome on Sunday February 2nd there should be an hour of prayer for Divine Blessing upon the Fatherland, her soldiers and the souls of those who had died in the war.

This had nothing to do with the Pope and there was no Papal Blessing.

FEB 19 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

PE 21/2

9

R

1941

VATICAN

R 1398

21

52

Registry Number } R 1398/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 420. En clair.

Dated 20th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry } 21st Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged stories of statements on the war made by the Pope.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 24 of the 17th February. Gives gist of an important article entitled "on behalf of truth", which appeared in the "Osservatore Romano" of the 16th February. This article attempts to clarify the position and attitude of the Pope with regard to world affairs, and also to attack those newspapers which have printed alleged stories of statements on the war made by him.

Last Paper.

R 1283

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) DC 1/3

(Index.) dx 22/2

Next Paper.

R 1451

(*Minutes.*)

Copy of Berne 388 attached.

The 'Osservatore Romano' article here summarised is an important pronouncement, and may be assumed to have been inspired by the Pope himself, as a means of contradicting the recent crop of rumours tending to show that his attitude towards the war was not impartial, or rather supra-national, but anti-democratic and pro-Axis. Vatican Radio has recently been broadcasting in a similar strain.

Seven separate reports are singled out for denial in para. 6. Of most of them we had heard before but one or two are unfamiliar. Central Dept. may have some further information.

W.R.C. Knight 22/2

See now R 1451

Central Dept.

DB 24/2

D.B. Bargent Feb 26

R.

53

R 1398

21 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION A.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Telegram (en clair) from Mr. Kelly, (Berne)
20th February, 1941.

D. 2.07 p.m. 20th February, 1941.
R. 7.10 p.m. 20th February, 1941.

No. 420.

JJJJJJJ

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 24 of 17th February, 1941.

1 Important article entitled "On behalf of truth" appeared in Osservatore Romano of February 16th.

2 It begins by quoting a former statement of the Pope's to effect that "A certain press" seemed to have undertaken the task of destroying brotherly relations between the members of the family of nations and the children of the same Heavenly Father; to which he added that the printed lie is no less deadly than armoured cars and bombing planes.

3 This warning has been fully confirmed by subsequent facts.

4 Article then emphasises the cherished Catholic doctrine of the spiritual and universal Fatherhood of the Pontiff. If, as the Pope has also declared, the Church cannot be expected to display partisanship for one or other different system, it is no less true that the head of the Church participates in the tragedies of all nations in a war which he did his utmost to avert.

5 It is apparently the purpose of certain printed statements (Letteratura) to destroy human assurance of the universal Fatherhood of the Pope by presenting his attitude as one inspired by mundane considerations and subject to calculated adjustments and hasty changes. At any rate it would be difficult to explain otherwise certain reports, either wholly invented or skilfully perverted, and deliberately so worded as to render difficult or delicate the necessary corrections.

6. Thus reports were spread that the Pope had declared
(a) that adaptation to the new European situation was obligatory and that it was well known that from early times the Holy See had fought against the Democratic form of Government;
(b) prominence was given to information purporting to show that the life of the Catholic Church in Germany was now developing in more than satisfactory conditions; a Papal
(c) representative was said to have conveyed the Pope's encouragement to officers and men of a nation that had passed under the flag of another and belligerent nation; the Pope
(d) was alleged to have blessed the arms of a single nation;
(e) agencies and newspapers gave publicity to a report that the Pope had declared his conviction that France, in order to avoid complete ruin, should make a definitive peace without waiting for the end of hostilities; as already announced by

the/

FEB 21 XII 1941 REGISTRY

DC 1/3

54

the Osservatore, other reports were circulated about Christmas time in regard to alleged facilities conceded and obtained to enable Catholics in the occupied territories to participate in religious observances; finally a story has been circulated to the effect that the Holy Office had declared itself on the subject of Spanish racial policy towards Spanish American countries. (f) (g)

And other instances could be given of perversions of the truth as part of a regular campaign.

Among weak spirits such endeavours may attain a certain measure of success. But this will not be so of the faithful who, secure in their faith and mindful of the ardent wish of the Pope, give strength and comfort to such as have been surprised and dismayed by falsehood and have fallen into pusillanimity and weakness.

10

R

54A

1941

VATICAN

R 1451

22 FEB 1941

Registry Number R 1451/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 422.

Dated 20th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 22nd Feb. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged stories of statements on the war made by the Pope.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 25 of 17th February. Refers to Berne telegram No. 309 (R 875/30/57) and to Foreign Office telegram No. 193.

Thinks that this comprehensive correction of false reports and re-affirmation of the Pope's position is important and valuable.

Has already obtained denials of many of these reports, as referred to him by Foreign Office and as notified to him by Berne.

Last Paper.

R 1398

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

(Retained until 24/2 for further Min.)

This refers to the Osservatore Romano article summarised in R1398, about the importance of which we can agree with Mr Osborne's estimate of it. Good use should, as Mr Osborne points out, be made by our propaganda of this comprehensive démenti in order to counteract evening inventions and distortions, for the benefit of Catholics everywhere but especially in the occupied territories.

W.R.C.K. Wright 22/2.

Liaison Dept.

Can this Dept. / I agree with Mr. Nicholls R 25/2

The article in the "Osservatore Romano" reported in Mr. Osborne's telegram No. 24 in R 1398 is useful so far as it goes and is a welcome sign that the Vatican realise that they are being criticised and have to defend themselves, but what would be more to the point would be if the Vatican would issue orders to their Nuncios not to disseminate these equivocal and unfounded rumours. I think we should still keep most careful watch on these matters and continue to instruct Mr. Osborne to press the Vatican as evidence accumulates.

J Nicholls

February 25th, 1941.

The "Osservatore" article can, I think, fairly be traced to our representations, and I agree that we should renew these whenever we

(Action completed.) DC 1/3

(Index.) 26/2/73

Next Paper.

R1686

54B

have a good opportunity.

AmR.
26/2

O.V. Bargen
Feb 26

R

55

R 1451
20 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly. (Berne).
20th February, 1941.
D. 9.18. p.m. 20th February, 1941.
R. 5.55 .a.m. 21st February, 1941.

No: 422.

. . . . . .

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No: 25 February 17.

(Begins): My immediately preceding telegram: Berne telegram No: 309 and your reply No: 195. R875/30/57

I think that this comprehensive correction of false reports and re-affirmation of the Pope's position is important and valuable. R875/30/57 paper in Dept

I have already obtained denials of many of these reports either as they have been referred to me by you (see your telegrams Nos. 12 and 14) or R783/30/57 as notified to me by Berne. It should also be of value in combatting German propaganda among Catholics on the danger of which I have frequently insisted here lately; see my telegram No: 19. R690/9

Not received.

22 FEB 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

11

R

1941

VATICAN

53

R 1686

27 FEB 1941

Registry Number R 1686/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Campbell, Belgrade.

No. 302.

Dated 25th Feb., 1941.

Received in Registry 27th Feb., 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope to the International Situation.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No.221 (R 1183/1183/57). Reports Vatican denial that the Nuncio spoke with the authority of the Pope. Gives the views of the Archbishop of Zagreb on conditions in Italy and also the views of the Pope on the same subject and on the international situation. The Pope is reported to have expressed his hatred of Germany and his feelings of friendship for Yugoslavia.

Last Paper.

R 1451

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

pp in action, copy of ref: attached

The Pope's outspokenness about Fascism and the Germans, as reported in para. 3, leaves nothing to be desired; and the Archbishop of Zagreb's account of conditions in Italy is one of the most pessimistic that has ever reached us. The report referred to in the second sentence of para. 5 no doubt explains the reference in Mussolini's speech to the 'absolutely perfect' behaviour of the Germans in Sicily.

Sq. 11/3 — W.R. Knight 27/2

Central Dept. 11/3

I doubt the truth of para 4: it does not seem to me to be a little suspicious that the archbishop is informative.

J Nicholls 28/2

I agree

R Sargent Feb 28

A.G. Feb. 28. 1941.

(Action completed.) DE 11/3

(Index.) Doc 27/3

Next Paper.

R 2002

21190 F.O.P.

57

R

R 1684

27 FEB 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: YUGOSLAVIA.

Decypher. Mr. Campbell (Belgrade)
25th February, 1941.

D. 11.00 p.m. 25th February, 1941.

R. 7.20 a.m. 26th February, 1941.

No.302.

[ ] [ ] [ ]

CONFIDENTIAL.

R 1183/-/92

Your telegram No.221. NP

The Vatican denied that the Nuncio spoke [group undecypherable] full or with the authority of the Pope.

2. Archbishop of Zagreb who has just returned from the Vatican tells F. that the Pope spoke warmly of His Royal Highness and of Yugoslavia whose welfare he desired.

He decried Frankovci which has pleased F. since Roman Catholic priests in Croatia were last year considered to be favouring their activities without hindrance from the Archbishop.

3. The Pope said that Fascist régime was at low ebb and only kept alive by the Germans. He spoke most vehemently against Germany.

4. According to the Archbishop, His Holiness is prepared to leave Italy.

5. Archbishop said Mussolini's prestige is exceedingly low and that the Italian people are miserable, hungry and dispirited. He said that German soldiers in Sicily have been interfering with women and that one or more are found knifed every morning.

6. Archbiship read at the Vatican accounts of the treatment of the population of occupied Roman Catholic countries, which, he said surpassed belief.

Pc 14/3

12

1941

R

VATICAN

R 2002

5 MAR 1941

58

Registry Number R 2002/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly, Berne

No. 496

Dated 3rd ~~Feb~~ March, 1941

Received in Registry 5th Mar, 1941

R: Vatican

The Vatican and the War.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 34 of 27th February.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No. 21 to the Holy See (R 1283/30/57).

Says that the Vatican see no present prospect of any useful peace initiative, but that should occasion offer they would desire to do all in their power to exploit it.

Last Paper.

R 1686

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel. Berne no: 331
(for Holy See no: 32)
March 15

(Minutes.)

The Vatican's peace attitude as stated in para. 2 is more or less in accord with what the Nuncio at Belgrade told the Yugoslav M.F.A. (first sentence of Belgrade tel. R1183/1183/92 No. 246); but the second part of the Nuncio's conversation, in which he is alleged to have said that the Yugo-Slavs should not resist the Germans, is repudiated by the Vatican (para. 4).

The same Nuncio's initiative, referred to in para. 3, was a clumsy peace manoeuvre which dragged in Hitler, represented as possibly re-gretting the war with Great Britain (R1165/30/57) and still desiring a settlement.

It is not clear what is re-ferred to in para. 5, second sentence, but the story about extra priests sent to stiffen Italian military morale is given in para. 4 of Mr. Campbell's tel. No. 239 (R1165/30/57).

W.R.C.Knight 5/3

Central Dept.

20818 F.O.P

Mr Randall 20/3

We should do no harm

(Action completed.) DC 22/3

(Index.) DC 19/4

Next Paper.

R 2036

bringing instances of ~~[illegible]~~ the
behaviour & immorality of Vatican
officials abroad, & which are
false exceptions, & the action of
H. Osborne. These the Vatican
may realise the gravity of
standing instructions to
Missions to be more circumspect
than if they cannot be more
pro. Christian.

JMcBride
7/3.

These Nuncios are a nuisance.

Rowe
7/3.

It is not really good enough, for
the Vatican to brush aside these reports
with the remark that the Nuncio's
instruction is his own. If one of H.M.
Ambassadors talked on such a vital
topic in such a definite way, he
wd. be assumed to have H.M. G's
authority, & if this had not been
given. I think he would
soon be checked. The Vatican I
suggest, shd. be pressed to
induce in the offending Nuncios
a sense of responsibility, of the
Holy See is to be credited with views
and actions which they presumably
repudiate.

Jas Rendall
12/3

59

I am inclined to agree with Mr Randall, and submit herewith a draft telegram to Mr. Osborne in the sense suggested.

W.R.C. Knight 13/3

Dft. sent for despatch this evening. W.R.C.K 14/3

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

R

60

R 2002
MAR 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne). 3rd March, 1941.

D. 9.12 p.m. 3rd March, 1941.

R. 2.54 a.m. 4th March, 1941.

No. 496.

XXXXXXXX

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 34 February 27th.

Your telegrams Nos. 21 and 23. R 1183 R 1165

2. Vatican say that they see no present prospect of any useful peace initiative, but that should occasion offer they would desire to do all in their power to exploit it.

R 1165/30/57

3. Nuncio's initiative reported in Belgrade telegram No. 239 is his own, and no importance is attached to the report. Same applies to Berne Nuncio's talk of desirability of compromised peace, as I have informed His Majesty's Minister.

4. Belgrade Nuncio's advice to Yugoslav Government regarding possible German demands is entirely unauthorised and Vatican is reluctant to credit it.

5. Despatch of extra chaplains does not signify Vatican support of Fascist government nor have Vatican anything to do with it. Vatican is almost as little concerned as in the measures reported in your telegram No. 229 Empax of December 14th to Berne.

no trace

6. Last paragraph of Belgrade telegram No. 246 is largely undecypherable, please repeat.

R 1183/1183/92

[Note by Communications Department: action has been taken on paragraph 6].

MAR 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

De 18/3

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. R2002/30/57

W.L.C.K

Draft.

Mr Kelly Id VII
Berne.

No. 331

Cypher.

W+M[W]

Distribution B.

Mr Randall
a.a.

OUT FILE

1-50 pm 15/3 61

Please pass following telegram to Mr Osborne begins

Tel. no. 32

Your Tel. no. 34 [of Feb. 27. Vatican's attitude towards the war].

Vatican's disclaimers are welcomed, but you should continue to impress ~~Take opportunity of impressing~~ on them desirability of inducing sense of responsibility in offending ~~them~~ Nuncios, failing which Holy See will be credited with views and actions which it in fact repudiates.

SN
14/3.

ROOM 46
P.M. MAR 14 1941
FOREIGN OFFICE

62

OUT FILE

(R 2002/30/57)

DISTRIBUTION B.

To SWITZERLAND.

Cypher telegram to Mr. Kelly (Berne)

Foreign Office, 15th March, 1941. 1.50 p.m.

No. 331.

vvvvvvvv

Please pass following figures to Mr. Osborne.[Begins].

Telegram No.32.

Your telegram No.34, [of February 27th. Vatican's attitude towards the war].

Vatican's disclaimers are welcomed, but you should continue to impress on them desirability of inducing sense of responsibility in offending Nuncios, failing which Holy See will be credited with views and actions which it in fact repudiates.

13

1941

R

VATICAN

R 2036

6 MAR 1941

63

Registry Number R 2036/30/57

FROM Archbishop Godfrey to Sir A. Cadogan.

No.

Dated 1st Mar, 1941

Received in Registry 6th Mar, 1941

R: Vatican

The Pope's attitude to the War.

Reports that certain newspapers abroad have published an account which says that the Pope had expressed a desire that France should make a definite peace with the Axis before the conclusion of hostilities in order that she should avoid complete defeat.

Is informed by the Holy See that the statement is completely without foundation in fact.

Last Paper.

R 2002

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

We learned over a month ago (Berne tel. No. 309 - R875/30/57) that Mr Osborne had received the Cardinal S. of S.'s assurance that this particular story was completely untrue.

Sir A. Cadogan no doubt thanked the Apostolic Delegate for this communication, and no further action seems necessary.

W.R.C.H 8/3.

(Action completed.)

DC 1073

(Index.)

Dec 1073

Next Paper.

R2633

Left with Sir A. Cadogan
March 1. 1941.

64

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S.W.19.

TELEPHONE:
WIMBLEDON 1410.
TELEGRAMS:
DELAPOST, LONDON.

1st March, 1941.

R 2036
6 MAR 1941

PRO MEM.

Certain newspapers abroad have published an account which says that the Pope had expressed a desire that France should make a definite peace with the Axis before the conclusion of hostilities in order that she should avoid complete defeat. The Holy See informs me that such a statement is completely without foundation in fact.

+ William Godfrey.
Apostolic Delegate.

Pc 1073

14

R

1941

VATICAN

R 2633
18 MAR 1941

65

Registry Number } R 2633/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See.

No. 13
(8/8/41).
Dated 27th Feb. 1941.
Received in Registry } 18th March 1941.

R: Vatican.

Pope's attitude to the International situation.

Gives report on that part of an address given by the Pope on 25th February to the Roman Clergy which applies to political conditions.

The Pope said that the present situation in the world is due chiefly to the denial of God and to the "irreligiousness which threatens to spread through Europe and over entire continents". The Pope exhorted the faithful to remain 'united in charity.'

Last Paper.

R 2036

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.)
DE 27/3

(Index.)
Cr 19/4

Next Paper.

R 2664

(*Minutes.*)

Whether or not these were meant to be political references, the contrast between the Pope's exhortation to mutual charity and Mussolini's incitement to hatred is most striking.

W.R.C.K. 19/3.

Liaison Dept.
Central Dept. 24/3

It is perhaps worth noting that Italian propaganda has lately been making particular efforts to work up hatred against England. From the intensity of the effort it looks as if the propaganda has much resistance to overcome.

A.W.G.R.
24/3

W.R.C.K. 27/3

16757 3/38 F.O.P.

66

R 2635

18 MAR 1941

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY.
February 27th 1941.

No. 13.
(8/8/41)

Sir,

I have the honour to report that on February 25th the Pope delivered a long address to the assembled Roman clergy and, in particular, to those selected to preach during Lent. Only two passages may be read as applying to political conditions. In the first His Holiness declared that "the tremendous events which we are living through to-day are chiefly the consequence and, as it were, the nemesis of the denial of God and of that irreligiousness which, like infection, is disturbing and corrupting the soul of the nations and, like a conflagration, threatens to spread throughout Europe and over entire continents". In the second passage he said, "May the faithful be united in charity, in that Christian charity which seems sadly banished from the earth, but which, even in the midst of the most tragic conflicts, loses nothing of its obligation and can alone bring to men that prosperity and those blessings which reciprocal hatred destroys." This last is thought by many to be a reply to Mussolini's incitation in his recent speech to "cold-blooded, deliberate, implacable hatred, rooted in every heart and diffused in every household."

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
With the highest respect,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

fe 27/3

15

R

1941

VATICAN

67

R 2664
19 MAR 1941

Registry Number R 2664/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See to Southern Department.

No. 36/1/41.

Dated 19th Feb. 1941.

Received in Registry 18th March 1941.

R: Vatican.

Foreign public statements published in the "Osservatore Romano".

Transmits copy of the "Osservatore Romano" of the 16th February giving a number of foreign public statements or articles under the general title "Documentazioni". These are accompanied by no comment, as their paper is not allowed to print political articles of a critical or contentious nature.

Last Paper.

R 2633

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

D ft) Mr Martelli (P.I.D)
from Mr Knight
March 30

(Minutes.)

The "Osservatore" has long been noted for its courage, and this is now about as far as it can go. The Italian authorities may now think it is going too far and impose further restrictions.

W.R.C.K 19/3.

Liaison Dept.
Central Dept. 24/3

P.I.D. wd. be interested.
A.W.R.
21/3

Dft. to Mr Martelli P.I.D.
Secret.
W.R.C.K 28/3

(Action completed.) DC 31/3

(Index.) Dr 15/4

Next Paper.

R 2867

68

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY.

36/1/41

February 19th 1941.

R 2664
19 MAR 1941

1c

Dear Department,

The "Osservatore Romano" which, you will remember, was forced some time ago to stop printing political articles of a critical or contentious nature, has taken of late weeks to publishing in its Saturday issue a number of foreign public statements or articles under the general title "Documentazioni". They are, of course, accompanied by no comment. I enclose copies of last Saturday's issue from which you will see that this week articles from the British press are given first place. This is satisfactory and is courageous of the editors, whose position is an exposed and uncomfortable one.

Yours ever,

D. G. Osborne

Southern Department,

FOREIGN OFFICE.

DC 3/3

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R2664/30/57

WRCK
Draft

Mrs Martell.

P. I. D.

(from Mrs Knight)

29

OUT FILE F.O. - 69

30 Mar 1941

It has been suggested that your Dept. might be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from our Minister at the Vatican about the attitude of the Osservatore Romano & the Edwards Cotton, the British press.

A copy of the issue of Feb. 16th is attached and need not be returned.

Will you kindly pass this to whomever in the P. I. D. is likely to be most interested, if that person is not yourself?

WRCK 28/3

OUT FILE

70

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.
30th March, 1941.

(R 2664/30/57).

Dear Martelli,

It has been suggested that your department might be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from our Minister at the Vatican about the attitude of the "Osservatore Romano" towards the British press. A copy of the issue of 16th February is attached and need not be returned.

Will you kindly pass this to whomever in the Political Intelligence Department is likely to be most interested, if that is person is not yourself?

Yours ever

(Sd) W.H.C. Knight

G. Martelli, Esq.
Political Intelligence Department

16

R

1941

VATICAN

R 2867

23 MAR 1941

71

Registry Number } R 2867/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 616.

Dated 21st Mar. 1941.

Received in Registry } 23rd Mar. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Report of performing of symphony concert in Vatican City by Berlin Opera Company.

The Journal de Genève of 14th March prints a report from its Rome correspondent that the Berlin Opera Company had performed a symphony concert in Vatican City in the presence of the Pope, who had previously received the performers in audience. His Majesty's Minister at the Vatican reports that this story is pure invention and that the truth is that certain catholic members of the orchestra attended one of the public audiences and the Pope said a few words to them in passing.

Last Paper.

R 2664

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Another "pure invention" about the Pope, though a comparatively harmless one this time. Axis propaganda may be trusted to seize on any pretext in order to create an impression of Papal benevolence towards Germany.

W.K. Knight 23/3

Liaison Dept. AWR. 26/3

Central Dept. RC. 27/3

JN 24/3.

(Action completed.) Dc 28/3

(Index.) 8K 15/4

Next Paper.

R3191.

20818 F.O.P.

72

R

R 2867

23 MAR 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decode. Mr. Kelly. (Berne).
21st March, 1941.

D. 2.08 p.m. 21st March, 1941.

R. 5.20 p.m. 21st March, 1941.

No: 616. (R).

. . . . . .

Journal de Genève March 14th prints report from its Rome correspondent that Berlin Opera Company performed symphony concert in Vatican City in the present of the Pope who had previously received performers in audience.

His Majesty's Minister at Vatican asks me to inform you that story is pure invention. Truth is that a group of Catholic members of orchestra attended one of the public audiences and the Pope said a few words to them in passing.

FC 2873

17

R

1941

VATICAN

73

R 3191
29 MR 1941

Registry Number } R 3191/30/ 57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 665 27th Mar. 1941.
Dated

Received in Registry } 29th Mar. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Vatican attitude to the International situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 50 of 24th March.

Considers that the Vatican are incensed with the lying German propaganda combined with their persistant anti-Catholic policy and are increasingly sensitive over the criticism of their own silence and inaction.

Is informed that something may come of this at Easter, and is doing all possible to encourage plain speaking, though expects little results.

Last Paper.
R 2867

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

There have been reports in the press that the Pope is drafting a peace appeal to be promulgated on Easter Sunday. His Holiness is fairly certain to make some pronouncement about the war on that occasion. Let us hope that Mr Osborne's promptings will have the desired effect.

W.R. Ck 29/3.

Central Dept.
Liaison Dept.

4 April

I don't think the Pope will make a peace appeal. This telegram shows that our representations about German propaganda & Vatican activity have had an effect, if only contributory.

R.C. 1/4

(Action completed.) RC 5/4

(Index.) 88 24/7

Next Paper.

R3450/.

20818 F.O.P

R

74

R 3191
28 MAR 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

From SWITZERLAND

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne).
27th March, 1941.

D. 6.31 p.m. 27th March, 1941.
R. 2.05 a.m. 28th March, 1941.

No. 665.

****

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 50 of 24th March.

CONFIDENTIAL.

I have the impression that Vatican are incensed with lying German propaganda combined with persistent anti-Catholic policy, and are increasingly sensitive over the criticism of their own silence and inaction (see my despatch No. 16 15th March). Informed something may come out of this at Easter and am doing what I can to encourage some plain speaking, but I expect little result.

never received

MAR
F.O. REGISTRY.

pc 574

18

R

1941

VATICAN

75

R 3459

4 APR '41

Registry Number R 3459/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr.Kelly, Berne.

No. 716

Dated 3rd Apr.1941.

Received in Registry 4th Apr.1941.

R: Vatican.

Denial of rumour that the Pope is to address an Easter appeal for peace to the belligerants.

Following from Mr.Leigh Smith. Mr.Osborne states that reports in the Swiss press that an Easter appeal for peace will be addressed to the belligerents by the Pope have no basis in fact.

Last Paper.

R 3191

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This is a relief as I had thought there might be something in the reports.

W.R.C.K 4/4.

Central Dept. These reports have been frequently put about in the past + have proved unfounded.

Liaison Dept.

M.L.C. 6.4.

P.G. 6/4

(Action completed.)

DC 18/4

(Index.)

8F 29/7

Next Paper.

R3640

R

76

[CYPHER]

DISTRIBUTION B.

FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

R 3459

4 APR 1941

Mr. Kelly.
No. 716.
3rd April, 1941.

D. 8.38 p.m. 3rd April, 1941.
R. 4.40 a.m. 4th April, 1941.

999999

Following from Mr. Leigh Smith.

Mr. Osborne states that reports in the Swiss press that an Easter appeal for peace will be addressed to the belligerents by the Pope have no basis in fact.

RC 1074

19

1941

R

VATICAN

R 3640

8 APR 1941

77

Registry Number } R 3640/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See
No. 16 (9/16/41)

Dated 13th March, 1941

Received in Registry } 8th April, 1941

R : Vatican

The Second Anniversary of the Pontificate of Pope Pius XII.

On the occasion of the celebration of the second anniversary of the Pontificate of Pius XII, the front page of the "Osservatore Romano" of 12th March, was given up to a portrait of the Pope accompanied by a eulogistic article on the part he has played in the last two years. The article is unmistakeably written by the Editor of the paper, Count Dalla Torre. Gives the text of this article considers it a faithful and eloquent summary of the pope's diagnosis of the ultimate causes of the war and of his conditions for the cure of human society.

Last Paper.

R 3459

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Off) The Hon. R. Hope
Mr Randall (Ptl) Brown
Dpatched 11th

(*Minutes.*)

Count dalla Torre's article is well summed up in the last paragraph.

We could wish that the Vatican did not use the expression <u>novus ordo</u> even tho' they mean, as we know they do, something diametrically opposed to Hitler's and Mussolinis 'New Order'. Axis propaganda is all too eager to seize on and exploit the ambiguity.

C.R.C. Knight
9/4.

Sh. 13/a
Central Dept.
Liaison Dept.

Can we take any use of this: or is it too late?

In any case a copy should be sent

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 15/4	8/17

Next Paper.

R3823

77A

Sent to the Secretary of the Religious
Division of the M. of I.

JN.
1874.

I attach a letter to
Mr. Hope, M.O.I.; I don't think
it is too late for us to be
made of this excellent article.

A.W.G.R.
11/4
WREK 18/4

78

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY.

March 13th 1941.

No. 16.

(9/16/41)

R 3640
8 APR 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that on the occasion of the celebration of the second anniversary of the Pontificate of Pius XII the front page of the "Osservatore Romano" of March 12th was given up to a portrait of the Pope, accompanied by an eulogistic article on the part he has played in the past two years. While ostensibly a panegyric, it savours somewhat of a reply to criticism and a defence. The article is unmistakeably from the pen of the editor of the "Osservatore Romano", Count Dalla Torre.

2. It is, he affirms, an error to say that, while war among the nations is raging, the Pope is neutral or impartial; as though he were concerned with the safeguarding of egoistic interests, or did not distinguish between truth and deception, justice and injustice, charity and hatred, good and evil. He is neither neutral nor impartial. He is neither outside of, nor above the struggle, and the faithful should know this and take courage from it. He is involved in it, as are involved man's heritage of revelation and redemption; as are involved justice, charity and human brotherhood; as are involved the human conscience and Christian civilisation. He is involved as a fighter who cannot yield and must retain the initiative, and it would betoken weakness of faith to

consider...

DC 18/4

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

consider him in the light of one adrift and helpless in the face of the tempest. He is a combatant and a powerful fighter. Justice, international cooperation and the novus ordo find in him their invincible defender. These ideals and concepts are proclaimed from the opposing camps, but they are invalidated by the suspicion of egoistic ends. Only to the Head of a spiritual principality can no such imputation be addressed. And all must agree that the Pope admirably fulfils his task of guiding and comforting humanity by appeals and warnings, which neither add fuel to the flames nor can be discounted as sybilline. The interpretation of the Gospel, instruction in truth and justice, reiterated the more surely in the face of open violations of these principles, these emerge as the ultimate criterion of good and evil, of right and wrong. An no responsibility can hope to escape judgment.

3. After two years of increasing and overwhelming difficulties the wise policy of the Church has attained a first and inalienable victory: whatever befall, on the final laying down of arms, the world will not regard as lasting and constructive any new order that is not inspired by the Pope's conditions and essentials of peace (enunciated in his Christmas Addresses of 1939 and 1940). And this is the proof that the inspiration of the Christian ideal has not been extinguished by the war. This is the inspiration and the ideal animating all of Pius XII's utterances. And these pronouncements demonstrate that the wounds of human society cannot be healed without a profound and integral spiritual renewal. This is the first condition of peace and understanding; of general comprehension of the true meaning of

the...

the words loyalty, collaboration, civilisation, justice and peace as the opus justitiae. It is the premis e and condition of the new order: victory over hatred, over mistrust, over "the deadly principle that interest is the basis and criterion of law, and that might makes right", over covetousness and cold-blooded egotism that, "arrogant in its strength, ends by violating, not only the honour and sovereignty of States, but the sane and ordered liberty of men". In these principles must be sought, in private, as well as in public, national and international life, the guarantees of peaceful, civilised collaboration: a higher morality governing individual, domestic and social relations as well as political relations between citizens and Governments and between individual nations; respect for the individual; respect for the right to life and independence of all nations, great and small, powerful and weak; a fair distribution of goods and labour, establishing a peaceful equilibrium between classes and nations; the abandonment of violence in the safeguarding of both social and political interests by means of juridical institutions which, faithful and reliable guarantors of freely negotiated agreements, avert "the danger that material force, instead of protecting the law, should despotically violate it"; finally, the extension from mankind to nations of the command of the Gospel not to do unto others as you would not that they should do unto you.

4. He who considers the conflict of ideas, the confusion of principles, the babel of tongues, in defiance of the whole code and custom of Christianity, which created the atmosphere of war, determined its outbreak and accompanies its tragic development, cannot deny that the Pope's battle

has...

has been a heroic one. That he may pursue it undeterred, with the help of God, so as to fortify the doctrinal and moral positions won and to enlarge the horizons of his success, is our wish to-day.

5. Count Dalla Torre's article is at any rate an eloquent, faithful and valuable summary of the Pope's diagnosis of the ultimate causes of the war and of his conditions for the cure of human society. Its condemnation of all that Nazism stands for is clear, although implicit and all too sybilline. With Nazism still loose upon the world it reads like a counsel of perfection, beyond human aspiration and divorced from all present and practical possibilities, for it contemplates a Christian commonwealth of contented nations. But the day may come when it will be recognised that there is much sound political wisdom in the Pope's conditions and essentials of peace and when they may exercise a wholesome and helpful influence upon the creation of a new order that is not Hitler's.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Darroch

OUT FILE

81A

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

11th April, 1941.

R 3640/30/57.

Dear Hope,

I enclose a copy of a despatch we received from our Legation at the Vatican. It is of course rather late in the day but the more proofs of the Holy See's opposition to the Axis New Order the better and I hope it may be possible for you to find suitable material in the Observatore's article.

It is a little unfortunate that the writer uses the term [redacted] but the context makes it perfectly clear that he has in mind a Christian new order almost totally opposed to everything in the Nazi programme.

(SD) A.W.G. RANDALL.

The Hon'l R. Hope.

20

R

1941

VATICAN

R 3823

12 APR 1941

82

Registry Number } R 3823/30/67

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly. Berne

No. 773

Dated 10th April, 1941

Received in Registry } 12th April, 1941

R : Vatican

The vatican attitude to the International situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 64 of 7th April.

Reports that he is strongly urging the Vatican publicly to condemn the unprovoked agression against Yugoslavia and Greece, though fears they will not have the courage to do so.

Has also for several weeks been supplying the Pope with documentary evidence of extortion threats in the hope that he may say something at Easter.

Last Paper.

R 3640

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

WRCK 12/4.

Liaison Dept.

(Action completed.)

16/5

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 4144

18560 2/39 F O.P

R

83

[CYPHER]

DISTRIBUTION B.

FROM: SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly
No. 775.
10th April, 1941.

D. 9.39 p.m. 10th April, 1941.
R. 5. 0 a.m. 11th April, 1941.

JJJJJJ

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 64 of April 7th.

Strongly urging the Vatican publicly to condemn unprovoked aggression against Yugoslavia and Greece, but I fear they will not have the courage to do so.

2. I have also for several weeks been supplying the Pope with documentary evidence of extortion [grp. undec.] threats at least as applied in occupied territories in the hope that he may say something at Easter.

APR 12 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

R 3823
12 APR 1941

1941

Vatican

SOUTHERN

R 4144 / GT 84

19 APR 1941

R 4144/ ~~4144~~ / G 30/57

Sir N. Charles,
Lisbon

To: Mr. Nichols

April 15th, 1941.

Possibility of Vatican becoming isolated.

Records interviews with Mr. Eric de Cuffer, who styles himself Consul-General of Luxemburg & Private Chamberlain to the Pope. He alleges that Dr. Salazar is in the hands of the Cardinal Patriarch, who in his turn is in hands of the Germans, and that Portugal will put up no resistance to Germany. The position of the Vatican will be extremely difficult, since Germany will dominate the whole of Europe and the Vatican will find itself cut off from all communication with Allied countries. [Encloses letter (Minutes.) for transmission to the Pope]

Last Paper.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Sir N. Charles
Lisbon / Apr. 24.

(Action completed.) | (Index.)

a-c. 20/4 A

Next Paper.

M. de Cuffer seems to be a well-meaning but rather unbalanced crank. Strictly speaking it is not for us to facilitate the submission of his views to the Pope, especially as there might be some suspicion that by so doing we were endorsing them; but I think that in the present case no harm would be done if we were to send the enclosures to Mr Osborne (if he sees no objection) for him, to transmit quietly informally to Cardinal di Sant' Elia. The writer's sturdy anti-Nazi attitude may if anything help to steffen that of the Holy Father, even though the latter has no intention of establishing himself outside Europe Italy in the event of the complete Hitlerian domination of that continent.

W.R.C. Knight 20/4

22107 1/41 F.O.P.

The Holy See with news
7

8414

I believe, voluntarily evacuate Rome: for they are frightened of ever getting back again.

The letter ought be forwarded to H.M. Ottawa with a warning in the Low Church P.S. - unless Cardinal Duff strongly disagree.

Cardinal Bell. 22/4
H.M. Ottawa.

H.M.
21/4.

I am rather inclined to disagree, I should hesitate to bring no attention to this unbalanced busybody. The Pope must be well aware that he may be isolated.

RCMP
21/4.

Then hold up: & inform.

SN
22/4

Off. herewith. I take it the two letters should be returned. ? Mr de Crespigny may wish to try some other channel.

W R C Kriegel
22/4

Returned. SN
23/4

18/4

Foreign Office
R 4144 / G 85
19 APR 1941

British Embassy,
Lisbon.
April 15th 1941.

Dear Phil,

We have had several visits from a Mr. Eric de Cupper who styles himself Consul-General of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg as well as Private Chamberlain of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. He is going to S.America with his son to escape the wrath of the Germans. He says that he is on intimate terms with the Pope and had always warned His Holiness against the Germans. He is a very nervous individual and is convinced that the Germans will shortly invade this country. He states that he knows on the authority of the highest military officers in the country that Salazar is in the hands of the Cardinal Patriarch who in his turn is in the hands of the Germans. He thinks that the country will put up no resistance to the Germans and that a German walk-over will be so much the easier since the religion of the Portuguese people is still, through its original Mohammedan influences, more pagan than Christian.

---- He has entrusted to us the enclosed letter which he desires to be sent by bag to Cardinal Alberto Arborio Mella di Sant'Elia for delivery to the Holy Father himself. In a covering letter to the Cardinal he foresees the certainty of a German occupation of Portugal and expresses the opinion that the war must last another two years. He points out that the position of the Vatican will be extremely difficult since Germany will dominate the whole of Europe and the Vatican will find itself cut off from all communication with other countries. He points out also the advisability, at this late hour, of the Holy See finding for itself an asylum in some country where it could at least preserve its liberty of thought and action.

Although we do not share Mr. de Cupper's views in any respect we thought that his last suggestion that the Vatican was running a risk of complete isolation was sufficiently interesting for us to undertake to submit the letter to you for subsequent transmission should you see fit.

Yours ever,

Noel Charles

P.B.B.Nichols, Esq., M.C.,
Foreign Office.

P.S. de Cupper's views about Salazar & the Patriarch are, I consider, absurd. he

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R4144/4144/G.

WFCK

Draft.

Sir N. Charles
Lisbon
(From Mrs Nichols).

[Please see further minute]

P.D.
22/4

86

24th April

My dear Noel,

Many thanks for your letter of April 15th enclosing letters for the Pope and Cardinal di Saint' Elia from Mrs Eric de Capper.

~~After the Pope and~~ ~~Cardinal had been carefully~~ The ~~weighed,~~ The balance of opinion in the Office is ~~so~~ in favour of not proceeding with the letters, so we are taking no action. The writer seems to be ~~in doubt~~ somewhat unbalanced, and the Pope must already be

86A

be well aware that he may be isolated.

I return the two letters herewith.

Mr
23/4

Yours ever,

(Signed) Philip Nichols.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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(R 4144/4144/G)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

24th April, 1941.

My dear Noel,

Many thanks for your letter of 15th April enclosing letters for the Pope and Cardinal di Sant' Elia from Mr. Eric de Cupper.

The balance of opinion in the Office is in favour of not forwarding the letters, so we are taking no action. The writer seems to be somewhat unbalanced, and the Pope must already be well aware that he may be isolated.

I return the two letters herewith.

Yours ever,

(sgd) Philip Nichols.

Sir Noel Charles, Bt., C.M.G., M.C.

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 4271

22 APR 1941

Registry Number R 4271/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly (Berne)

No. 822.

Dated 21st April 1941.

Received in Registry 22nd April 1941.

R:Vatican.

The Vatican and the War.

Following from Mr.Osborne telegram No.73 of 17th April.

Has asked the Vatican whether the Pope's warning against the use of "still more homicidal instruments of warfare", meaning obviously gas, was based on any particular information or anticipation. Has been informed that it was not.

Last Paper.

R 4144

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

W.R.Knight 22/4.

Mr. Bentinck

P.Dixon
23/4

JN
23/4.

(Action completed.)

1/5

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 4307

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R 427

22 APR 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

[Cypher]. FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 822.
21st April, 1941.

D. 6.30 p.m. 21st April, 1941.
R. 10.50 p.m. 21st April, 1941.

VVVVVVV

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.73 of April 17th.

My telegram No.68. not yet received

I asked the Vatican whether the Pope's warning against use of "still more homicidal instruments of warfare", meaning obviously gas, was based on any particular information or anticipation. I was told that it was not.

22 APR 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

R

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R 4271

22 APR 1941

DISTRIBUTION B.

[Cypher]. FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 822.
21st April, 1941.

D. 6.30 p.m. 21st April, 1941.
R. 10.50 p.m. 21st April, 1941.

vvvvvvv

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.73 of April 17th.

My telegram No.68. not yet received

I asked the Vatican whether the Pope's warning against use of "still more homicidal instruments of warfare", meaning obviously gas, was based on any particular information or anticipation. I was told that it was not.

22 APR 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

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R

VATICAN

1941

R 4307

23 APR 1941

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Registry Number } R 4307/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 820

Dated 21st April, 1941.

Received in Registry } 23rd April, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.68 of 13th April. Says that the British Broadcasting Corporation in quoting from the Pope's speech of 21st April did not refer to the important passage in which he spoke of those places in which fidelity to the church and resistance to atheism or to the deliberately tolerated or favoured anti-Christian influences are being made increasingly more difficult and of the martyrdom imposed upon Christians by an "insidious or open impiety". Considers the condemnation of the war against religion the most important passage in the Pope's speech.

Last Paper.

R 4271

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

See Wilkie letter from Mr Munro 9th May.

It is too late to do anything now, I suppose.

W.R.C. Wright
23/4.

Leagues Dept.

Yes, especially as Mr Osborne does not say to what B.B.C. bulletin he refers. The points in Mr Osborne's first par. seem also to have been omitted in the English press reports of the speech.

N.L. Clarke 24.4.

And are not in the BBC's monitored version, so I am afraid we can do nothing.

A.W.S.R
24/4

Mr Clarke we might shew privately part this out to the B.B.C., so that they realise that their monitoring service was at fault.

IN
24/4.

Librarian Dept.

I don't think we can say the monitors were at fault. They took down the speech

(Action completed.) HBS 1/5 HBS 4/5

(Index.) DNS 28/7

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R4942

18560 2/39 F.O.P.

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speech in full, but [illegible] was only a summary was printed in the Daily Digest. The full text was sent to the Catholic Section of the M. of I., who gave it to the Catholic Times.

M.L. Clarke 28.4.

I think this paper can therefore go by. The BBC. obviously cd. not give the whole of the Pope's address (nor the Vatican anyway broadcast itself) & had to select passages. It is inevitable that someone or other feels this or that shd. not have been left out.

F.W.G.R.

28/4

W.C.K. 29/4

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R

R 4307

23 APR 1941

[Cypher] DISTRIBUTION A.

From SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 820.
21st April 1941 " " " " "

D. 7.26 p.m. 21st April 1941
R. 10.55 p.m. 21st April 1941

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 68 April 15th

B.B.C. in quoting from the Pope's speech of today, did not refer to the important passage towards the end in which he spoke of those places in which fidelity to the Church and resistance to atheism or to the deliberately tolerated or favoured anti-Christain influences are being made increasingly more difficult; and of the martyrdom imposed upon Christians by an "Insidious or open Impiety" and by the crucifiers of Christ "open and secret, ancient and modern!"

This condemnation of war against religion, the warning that the ill treatment of population of occupied territories might call down the curse of God and insistence on a peace that is not "based upon oppression and destruction of peoples" seem to me the most important passages of the speech [grp undec]. I wish that they had been more succintly and emphatically expressed.

APR

F.O. REGISTRY.

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With Mr. Munro's compliments.

9th May, 1941.

WLMK 19/5

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Draft tel
from
Minister
to
H.M. Minister
Holy See.

No.
Cypher

Your telegram No. 68.

Is it possible for you to see advance texts of pontifical broadcasts or otherwise obtain advance information of their contents so that you could warn us beforehand of subject matter and salient points?

copy to Mr. Knight
F.O.

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 4942

7 MAY 1941

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Registry Number } R 4942/30/57.

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See)

No. 22 (38/9/41)

Dated 8th April 1941.

Received in Registry } 7th May 1941.

R:Vatican.

The Vatican's attitude towards agression against Yugoslavia and Greece.

Refers to Holy See telegram No.64 of 7th April (R 3823/30/57), and transmits copies of a letter sent to the Cardinal Secretary of State on the subject of the Vatican attitude towards the aggression against Yugoslavia and Greece, suggesting that the Pope should make some statement showing that he sympathised with these countries. Has also spoken very strongly to Cardinal Secretary of State on the matter.

Last Paper.

R 4307

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) 16/5

(Index.) 8/28/1

Next Paper.

R 4944

(*Minutes.*)

Mr Osborne has done his best, apparently with no success. Yet the Pope did send telegrams of condolence and sympathy to the Queen of Holland, the King of the Belgians and the Grand Duchess of Luxemburg. In the case of these countries, however, Germany alone was the aggressor. His Holiness has not had the courage to defy Mussolini, the effects of which might have been catastrophic.

W.R.C. Knight 8/5

Sh. 13/5

General Dept.

Liaison Dept.

Yes - that is the explanation.

R.M. Makins 9/5

A.W.G.R. 15/V

O'Sullivan

Sargent

Thy 10

18560 2/39 F.O.P

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British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY.

April 8th 1941.

No. 22.
(38/9/41)

R 4942

7 MAY 1941

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 64 of April 7th, I enclose copy of the communication which I have addressed to the Cardinal Secretary of State on the subject of the aggression against Yugoslavia and Greece. I have also spoken very strongly to the Under Secretary of State on the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure in Mr. Osborne's
Despatch No. 22 of April 8th
1941.

96

C O P Y.

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY

PERSONNELLE.

le 7 Avril 1941.

Eminence,

Est-ce que le Vatican ne pourrait pas manifester de quelque façon sa condamnation de l'attaque brutale et injustifiée de l'Allemagne contre la Yougoslavie et la Grèce? Cette attaque et les manoeuvres qui l'ont précédée ont gagné la condamnation presque universelle du monde civilisé et il y aura certainement une tendance à reprocher au Vatican son silence la-dessus. Est-ce que par exemple le Pape, en sa qualité de Souverain, ne pourrait pas exprimer aux Souverains de ces deux pays sa sympathie avec Eux et avec leurs peuples dans les épreuves et souffrances imméritées par lesquelles les deux nations ont été atteintes? Ou est-ce que Sa Sainteté ne pourrait pas adresser une lettre à Votre Eminence, qui serait publiée dans l'Osservatore Romano, dans laquelle Elle appliquerait à l'état actuel de l'Europe ses propres thèses sur le droit à la vie et à l'indépendance de toutes les nations, grandes et petites, puissantes et faibles, sur le funeste principe que l'utilité (i.e. l'intérêt) est la base et la règle des droits, et sur l'esprit de froid égoisme qui, orgueilleux dans sa force, finit par violer non moins l'honneur et la souveraineté des Etats que la liberté saine et disciplinée des citoyens? Il y aurait beaucoup à dire aujourd'hui sur ce thème!

Je saisis l'occasion pour renouveler à Votre

Son Eminence
Cardinal Luigi Maglione,
VATICAN.

Enclosure in Mr. Osborne's
Despatch No. 22 of April 8th
1941.

96

C O P Y.

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY

PERSONNELLE.

le 7 Avril 1941.

Eminence,

Est-ce que le Vatican ne pourrait pas manifester de quelque façon sa condamnation de l'attaque brutale et injustifiée de l'Allemagne contre la Yougoslavie et la Grèce? Cette attaque et les manoeuvres qui l'ont précédée ont gagné la condamnation presque universelle du monde civilisé et il y aura certainement une tendance à reprocher au Vatican son silence la-dessus. Est-ce que par exemple le Pape, en sa qualité de Souverain, ne pourrait pas exprimer aux Souverains de ces deux pays sa sympathie avec Eux et avec leurs peuples dans les épreuves et souffrances imméritées par lesquelles les deux nations ont été atteintes? Ou est-ce que Sa Sainteté ne pourrait pas adresser une lettre à Votre Eminence, qui serait publiée dans l'Osservatore Romano, dans laquelle elle il appliquerait à l'état actuel de l'Europe ses propres thèses sur le droit à la vie et à l'indépendance de toutes les nations, grandes et petites, puissantes et faibles, sur le funeste principe que l'utilité i.e. l'intérêt est la base et la règle des droits, et sur l'esprit de froid égoisme qui, orgueilleux dans sa force, finit par violer non moins l'honneur et la souveraineté des Etats que la liberté saine et disciplinée des citoyens? Il y aurait beaucoup à dire aujourd'hui sur ce thème!

Je saisis l'occasion pour renouveler à Votre

Son Eminence
Cardinal Luigi Maglione,
VATICAN.

Eminence l'assurance de ma plus haute considèration.

(Sgd) D.G. Osborne.

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1941

VATICAN

R 4944

7 MAY 1941

Registry Number R 4944/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See)

No. 24 (8/10/41)

Dated 14th Apr. 1941

Received in Registry 7th May. 1941

R: Vatican

Address by the Pope on Easter Sunday.

Refers to Holy See telegram No. 68 of 13th April (R 4307/30/57) and transmits copies of the Vatican's English translation of the Pope's address on Easter Sunday.

Last Paper.

R 4942

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

W.R.C. 9/5

Mr. Rapp AWR 12/V

Mr. Greenhill 20/5.

Librarian S.J. 17. V. 41.

(Action completed.)

21/5

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Next Paper.

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2 Spaces

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British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

April 14th 1941.

No. 24
(8/10/41)

R 4044
7 MAY 1941

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 68 of April 13th, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Vatican's English translation of the Pope's address of Easter Sunday.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

EASTER MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XII - APRIL 13, 1941

1. We most cordially greet you all, beloved sons and daughters of Rome and of the entire world, in the spirit of the Alleluia of Easter Morn, in the joyful spirit of resurrection and peace in Christ, after the desolation of His divine passion: but, unfortunately, there has been no resurrection, no restoration, of peace among nations, and in Our joyful greeting to you there must be intermingled that note of distress which was a cause of great sadness and continual sorrow to the heart of Paul the Apostle while he was preoccupied about his brethren, who were his kinsmen according to the flesh (Rom. 9,2). In the lamentable spectacle of human conflict, which we are witnessing, We acknowledge the valor and loyalty of all those who, with a deep sense of duty, are fighting for the defense and prosperity of their fatherland; We recognize, too, the prodigious and, in itself, efficacious development made in industrial and technical fields; nor do We overlook the many generous and praiseworthy gestures of magnanimity which have been made towards the enemy: but, while We acknowledge all this, We feel obliged, nonetheless, to state that the ruthless struggle has at times assumed forms which can be described only as atrocious. May all the belligerents, who also have human hearts moulded by a Mother's love, - show some feeling of charity for the sufferings of civilian populations, for defenseless women and children, for the sick and the aged, all of whom are often exposed to greater and more widespread perils of war than those faced by soldiers at the front! We beseech the belligerent Powers to abstain, until the very end, from the use of still more homicidal instruments of warfare; for the introduction of such weapons inevitably results in their retaliatory use, often with greater violence and cruelty, by the enemy. If already We must lament the fact that the limits of legitimate warfare have been repeatedly exceeded, would not a more widespread use of increasingly barbarous offensive weapons soon transform the war into an unspeakable horror?

2. In this tempest of misfortune and perils, of afflictions and fears, Our most powerful and safest haven of trust and peace is found in prayer to God, in whose hands rests not only the destiny of men but also the outcome of their most obdurate dissensions; wherefore, We express Our gratitude to the Catholics of the entire world for the fervor with which they responded to Our call to prayer and sacrifice for peace on November 24th. Today We repeat that invitation to you and to all those who raise their minds and hearts to God and We beseech you not to relax your prayerful vigilance but rather to reanimate and redouble it. Yes, let us pray for an early peace. Let us pray for a universal peace; not for a peace based upon oppression and the destruction of peoples, but a peace which, while guaranteeing the honor of all nations, will satisfy their vital needs and insure the legitimate rights of all.

3. We have constantly accompanied prayer with Our own endeavors. To the very limit of Our power and with a vigilant consciousness of the impartiality inherent in Our apostolic office, We have left nothing undone or untried in order to forestall or shorten the conflict, to humanize the methods of war, to alleviate the resultant suffering and to bring assistance and comfort to the victims of the war. We have not hesitated to indicate in unmistakingly clear terms the necessary principles and sentiments, which must constitute the determining basis of a future peace that will assure the sincere and loyal consent of all peoples. But We are saddened to note that there seems to be, as yet, little likelihood of a proximate realization of a peace that will be just, in accordance with human and Christian norms.

Thus Our supplication to heaven must be raised with ever-increasing meaning and fervor, that a new spirit may take root and develop in all peoples, and especially among those whose greater power gives them a wider influence and imposes upon them an additional responsibility; a spirit of willingness, devoid of sham and artifice, that is ready to make mutual sacrifices in order to build, upon the accumulated ruins of war, a new edifice of fraternal solidarity among the nations of the world, an edifice built upon new and stronger foundations, with fixed and stable guaranties, and with a high sense of moral sincerity, which would repudiate every double-standard of morality and justice for the great and small, or for the strong and weak.

Truth, like man, has but a single face: and Truth is Our weapon, just as prayer is Our defense and strength, and the living, sincere and disinterested Apostolic Word, inspired by paternal affection, Our entree to the hearts of men.

These are not offensive and bloody weapons, but arms of the spirit, arms of Our mind and heart. Nothing can impede or restrain Us from using them to secure and safeguard just rights, true human brotherhood and genuine peace, wherever the sacred duty of Our Office prompts Us and compassion for the multitude rekindles Our love. Nothing can restrain Us from repeatedly recalling to the observance of the precept of love those who are children of the Church of Christ, those who, because of their faith in the Divine Savior, or at least in Our Father Who is in heaven, are very near to Us. Nothing can impede or restrain Us from doing all in Our power in order that, in the tempest of surging waves of enmity among the peoples of the earth, the divine ark of the Church of Christ may be held firmly by the anchor of hope under the golden rays of peace - that blessed vision of peace which, in the midst of worldly conflicts, is the refuge, abode and sustenance of that fraternal spirit, founded in God and ennobled in the shadow of the Cross, whence alone the course must be set if we are to escape from the present tempest and reach the shore of a happier and more deserving future.

4. However, under the vigilant providence of God and armed only with prayer, exhortation and consolation, We shall persevere in Our battle for peace in behalf of suffering humanity. May the blessings and comforts of heaven descend upon all the victims of this war; upon you who are prisoners and upon your families from whom you are separated and who are anxious about you; and upon you refugees and dispossessed who have lost your homes and land, your life's support. We share with you your anguish and suffering. If it is not allowed Us - as We would earnestly desire - to take upon Ourselves the burden of your sorrows, may Our paternal and cordial sympathy serve as a balm which will temper the bitterness of your misfortune with today's greeting of the Alleluia, the hymn of Christ's triumph over earthly martyrdom, the blossom of the olive tree of Gethsemani flourishing in the precious hope of resurrection and of a new and eternal life in which there will be neither sorrows nor struggles. In this vale of tears there is no lasting city (Hebr. 13,14), no eternal fatherland. Here below, we are all exiles and wanderers; our true citizenship, which is limitless, is in heaven, in eternity, in God. If worldly hopes have bitterly deluded you, remember that hope in God never fails or deceives. You must make one resolve; - not to allow yourselves to be induced, either by your sad lot or by the malice of men, to waver in your allegiance to Christ. Prosperity and adversity are part and parcel of man's earthly existence; but what is of the utmost importance, and We say it with St. Augustine, is the use that is made of what is called prosperity or adversity. For the virtuous man is neither exalted by worldly well-being nor humbled by temporal misfortune; the evil man, on the other hand, being corrupted in prosperity, is made to suffer in adversity (De Civ. Dei, l.I,c.8 - Migne PL,t.41, col. 20).

To the Powers occupying territories during the war, We say with all due consideration: Let your conscience and your honor guide you in dealing justly, humanely and providently with the peoples of the occupied territories. Do not impose upon them burdens which you, in similar circumstances, have felt or would feel to be injust. A prudent and helpful humanitarianism is the commendation and boast of wise generals; and the treatment of prisoners and civilians in occupied areas is the surest indication and proof of the civilization of individuals and nations. But, above all, remember that upon the manner in which you deal with those whom the fortunes of war place in your hands may depend the blessing or curse of God upon your own fatherland.

5. The contemplation of a war that is so cruel in all its aspects, and the thought of the suffering children of the Church inspires in the heart of the Common Father and forms upon Our lips words of comfort and encouragement for the Pastors and faithful of those places where the Church, the Spouse of Christ is suffering most;where fidelity to her, public profession of her doctrines, conscientious practical observance of her laws, moral resistance to atheism and to dechristianizing influences deliberately favored or tolerated, are being openly or insidiously, opposed and daily, in various ways, made increasingly more difficult. The records and the artifices of this/secret generally, and at times even public martyrdom, which an insidious or open impiety makes the followers of the Crucified suffer,are multiplying daily and constitute, as it were, in an encyclopedia of many volumes, the Annals of heroic sacrifices and fornish a moving verification of the words of Our Divine Saviour: "The servant is not greater than && his master, If they have persecuted me they will also persecute you" (John 15,20). Is this divine warning not a source of tender comfort on that sorrowful and bitter Way of the Cross which you are following because of your fidelity to Christ? O all you who are walking so sadly along this Way, priests and religious, men and women, and particularly you young men, the pride and joy of your families, who are called upon to bear the burden of these merciless and bitter days - whatever be your origin, language, race, social condition or profession - all you upon whom the seal of suffering for Christ is stamped so clearly, a sign no less of suffering than of glory as it was to the great Apostole Paul;you are numbered among those privileged intimates,who are nearest to the Cross of Calvary and by this very fact nearest also to the pierced Heart of Christ and to Our own. On that We were able to make you appreciate how profoundly Our heart has been pierced by the cry of the Apostle of the Gentiles: "Who is weak and I am not weak?" (2 Cor. 11,29). The sacrifices you are called upon to make, your sufferings in mind and body, your concern for your own faith and still more for the faith of your children, We are aware of them, we share them with you, We lament them before God. And yet withal, on this day We greet you with a joyful Alleluia; for it is the day of Christ's triumph over His crucifiers, open and secret, ancient and modern. We convey that greeting to you with the voice and confidence with which, even in the days of the persecutions, the early Christians exultantly sang that Alleluia. Perhaps you do not recall the words of Our Lord to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life:he that believeth in Me, shall not die favorer" (John 11, 25,26). The certainty that through sacrifice for the Faith, even to the sacrifice of their life, they were assuring themselves of resurrection, made of the martyrs heroes of Christ, faithful unto death. You enjoy that same certainty. Imitate them: and with the greatest prophet of the new and eternal Testament raise your eyes to the heavenly Jerusalem, where Christ gloriously reigns and rules and, while rewarding His good and faithful servants proclaims the mystery and splendor of their triumph in the shining whiteness of their garments, in the indelible inscription of their names in the book of life,

and in decreeing that they be exalted before His Father and the heavenly Court, with admirable words which you, in your perilous trials, must never forget: "He that shall overcome, shall thus be clothed in white garments and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels." (Apoc. 3,5).

Beloved sons and daughters! To Jesus Christ, "the Prince of the kings of the earth, Who hath loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood" (Apoc. 1,5), raise your eyes, while, as a pledge of that heavenly peace which He alone can give to us and which We implore of Him in superabundant ~~fullness~~ measure for all humanity, We impart to you, to Pastors and faithful, to your families, to your children, that Christ may protect and keep you in His grace and love, to those who in the fulfillment of duty are fighting on land, on sea and in the skies, and especially to all those who have been so severely lashed by the scourge of war, with a heart overflowing with love, Our paternal Apostolic Benediction.

May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, descend upon you and remain forever, Amen.

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VATIOAN

R 5186

13 MAY

Registry Number } R 5186/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
(Holy See)
28

No. (18/12/41)

Dated 25th April, 1941.

Received in Registry } 13th May, 1941

R : Vatican

Last Paper.
R 4944

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.)
D.S. 26/5

(Index.)
DS 29/7

Next Paper.
R 5409.

Letter and address by the Pope.

Encloses published copy of letter from the Pope to the Cardinal Secretary of State inviting the faithful to pray for peace also a copy of the observatore Romano reporting an address delivered by the Pope to University students and members of the Catholic Action extolling the virtues of humility and charity and condemning the sins of pride and violence.

(*Minutes.*)

Les minutes en R 5165/44/57

JN
14/V.

18560 2/39 F.O.P

British Legation to the Holy See, 105

VATICAN CITY.

No. 28.

(18/12/41)

April 25th 1941.

R 5186
13 MAY 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that, as last year, the Pope, in a published Letter to the Cardinal Secretary of State, has invited the prayers of the faithful, and especially the prayers of children, to the Virgin Mary, during her month of May, "to implore peace for an anguished and afflicted humanity". A subsequent reference is to "a universal, substantial and lasting peace which, in order to conform to the inviolable demands of justice and charity, will not contain the germs of discord and rancour, nor embody causes of future wars, but, by effecting a fraternal and harmonious union of nations bound together in friendship, and by helping all peoples to enjoy the fruits of their labour in tranquil freedom, will, etc.,". I attach a copy of the Letter.

2. On April 20th the Pope delivered a long address to university students, members of Catholic Action, whom he received at the Vatican Palace. Towards the end of his address he said that in the world of to-day, agitated and torn by conflict and war, no lesson of Divine teaching was more necessary than that of humility and charity, virtues that so many nowadays regarded as futile and senseless. Truth, which alone is strong and makes for strength, should instil, not pride, which is weak since it exalts without edifying, but rather a sense of duty, courage, self-control, heroism in time of trial and peril, - that valorous spirit which is not arrogant in victory and makes a magnanimous victor. The world has no need of pride and violence; but rather of charity and love, and of

that...

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

that humility which is not cowardice, but knowledge of self. Pride is nothing but illusion and error. Truth is that all men are brothers in the society of man, and that they are made to love and aid one another. The virtues of humility and charity, which will triumph in the fullness of time, do not diminish patriotism or prevent the citizen from fighting in a truly just war for the defence, honour and salvation of his country against an adversary armed to overthrow it. But charity, kindly as it is, does not excuse iniquity, even on the field of battle, or in the sorest of trials. On the contrary it forbids oppression of the innocent, or punishment of the guilty beyond the limits of justice; and it warns against those sentiments that Saint Augustine condemned when he wrote: "the thirst for doing harm, the cruelty of revenge, a spirit unappeased and unappeasable, the ferocity of battle, the lust of domination and suchlike: these are what are blamed in war".

3. This lesson on pride and violence, charity and humility, in time of war is very much to the point to-day. St. Augustine must have been vouchsafed a vision of Hitler. I enclose a copy of His Holiness' speech.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, Humble Servant,

D. J. Owens.

TO OUR BELOVED SON

LUIGI CARDINAL MAGLIONE

OUR SECRETARY OF STATE

PIUS PP. XII

BELOVED SON

HEALTH AND APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

While We are fully confident that the faithful, and especially the children under the guidance of their parents, will be mindful of Our invitation of last year [1] and will gather before the Altar of the Most Blessed Virgin, Mother of God, during the coming month of May, to implore peace for anguished and afflicted humanity, We desire, nevertheless, through the medium of this letter addressed to you, to repeat that exhortation to all.

As the bitterness of war increasingly distresses and crushes the hearts of men and as the dangers of every sort, which threaten so many nations, become ever more appalling, We confidently express the wish that the faithful raise their minds and hearts in prayer to Heaven, whence alone, in the midst of such profound mental perplexity and material disorder, can come the hope of a better day.

If our prayers and aspirations have not as yet had the result which we ardently desired, our trust in God must not

[1] *A. A. S.*, 1940, p. 144.

be lessened on this account, but we must all continue, [redacted] constant and persevering devotion, to be "patient in tribulation, instant in prayer." [2]

The designs of God are hidden from us, but we are certain that, although innumerable and grave offenses call down the avenging justice of Heaven, the Lord is, nevertheless, "the Father of Mercies and the God of all comfort," [3] and we know that His love and benevolence for us is boundless.

But there is still another motive for our trust and hope, for we have at the throne of Almighty God, the most amiable Mother of God, and Our Mother, who, through her all-powerful intercession can certainly obtain for us all favors that she asks of Him. Let us, then, place ourselves and our problems under her protection, that she may make our prayers and aspirations her own and enhance the value of the works of expiation and charity which we must offer in generous measure to satisfy the Divine Majesty.

May she dry all our tears, strengthen us in all our suffering, console us in all our sorrows, and, in lightening these afflictions, enable us, with the hope of eternal reward, to bear them more easily.

If, in calling to mind our sinfulness, we feel ourselves to be unworthy of her maternal affection, let us lead our children in ever-increasing numbers to her sacred shrine, especially during the coming month of May, that they may plead our cause,—those little ones with innocent souls and lips unstained who in their limpid eyes seem to mirror and reflect something of the splendor of heaven. United with us in prayer, let them petition that wherever covetous greed now holds sway, there

[2] Rom., XII, 12.
II Cor., I, 3.

reign of love may soon prevail; that where now the spirit of reprisal persists, forgiveness may be exercised; that for discord among men there may be substituted the loving harmony which reconciles and unites them; and finally that where now deep enmities are aroused, unhappily provoking widespread disorder, there may be effected new ties of friendship which will calm the hearts of men and bring to the Universe the tranquility of an order founded on justice.

Let these little ones implore of the most amiable Mother of God heavenly comforts for all those who are suffering, and particularly for refugees, exiles and prisoners, and for the wounded in the hospitals; let them ask of her, perseveringly, with their innocent voices, that the duration of this awful misfortune be brief, so that after having "rightly suffered for our sins, we may at last be relieved by the comforts of divine grace;" [4] and that, therefore, there may soon return to the earth the resplendent rays of a universal, substantial and lasting peace, which, in order to conform to the inviolable demands of justice and charity, will not conceal the germs of discord and rancor, nor embody causes of future wars, but which, by effecting a fraternal and harmonious union of nations bound together in friendship, and by helping all peoples to enjoy the fruits of their labor in tranquil freedom, will accompany and lead them with hope and confidence along the path of their earthly pilgrimage, towards their heavenly fatherland.

Meanwhile We charge you, Our Beloved Son, to make these Our wishes and exhortations known to all, in the manner which you may deem most opportune, and first of all, to the

[4] Cfr. Brev. Rom., Fourth Sunday in Lent.

Sacred Pastors who will certainly wish to bring them to the attention of the flock entrusted to their care.

In pledge, then, of divine grace and in testimony of Our benevolence, We most cordially impart the Apostolic Benediction to you, Our Beloved Son, and to all those—especially the children—who will receive this, Our exhortation, with ready and spontaneous devotion.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, Low Sunday, the 20th day of April in the year 1941, the third of Our Pontificate.

PIUS PP. XII

S. E. MR.
D. G. OSBORNE
MINISTRE DE S.M.BRITANNIQUE
PRESSO LA S.S. - S.MARTA
VATICANO

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Il Sommo Pontefice Pio XII traccia alla Gioventù Universitaria ed ai Laureati di Azione Cattolica il programma di vita e di operosità

" La verità... è vestigio e fulgore della luce inaccessibile, in cui Dio ha il suo trono, e da cui scendono all'uomo, come due rivi da unica fonte, le verità della ragione e le verità della fede „

"Il vostro vuol essere... lavoro coraggioso e lieto, nell'umiltà e nella carità„

L'omaggio filiale che gli Studenti Universitari di Azione Cattolica e gli ascritti alla Sezione Laureati hanno reso ieri, Domenica in Albis, al Sommo Pontefice Pio XII, a epilogo felicissimo delle loro riunioni di preghiera e di studio in Roma, è riuscita attestazione memoranda di fede, di adesione completa alle direttive del Vicario di Gesù Cristo, di vibrante amore e di riconoscenza verso il Suo atto di squisita bontà nel concedere la solenne Udienza e il dono della Sua mirabile parola.

Gremita la vasta Aula della Benedizione dalla folla dei giovani che, con i più anziani, avevano alle ore 8 ascoltato la S. Messa celebrata nella Basilica Vaticana dall'Em.mo Signor Cardinale Pietro Boetto. Foltissime le delegazioni delle varie Associazioni Universitarie convenute — con quelle di Roma al completo — da ogni parte d'Italia: notevoli le sezioni dei Laureati, ai quali si erano aggiunte numerose personalità del laicato dirigenti o ex-dirigenti dell'Azione Cattolica insieme a moltissimi Assistenti Ecclesiastici.

Nel ripiano presso il Trono avevano preso posto gli Eminentissimi Lavitrano e Boetto, della Commissione Cardinalizia per l'Azione Cattolica in Italia; le LL. EE. nareggi, Vescovo di Bergamo; un folto gruppo di Prelati tra i quali gli Ill.mi e Rev.mi Monsignori: Anichini, Sargolini, Roveda, Prosperini, Grano, Camagni Valentini, Borghino, Carollo; i Presidenti Centrali dei vari rami dell'Azione Cattolica Italiana prof. Panighi, prof. Gedda, avv. Moro, Dottoressa Carazzolo, Dottoressa Rimoldi, Sig.na Barelli; il Segretario Centrale della Sezione Laureati avv. Veronesi; numerosi antichi dirigenti di Azione Cattolica tra i quali: l'avv. Colombo, l'avv. Corsanego, l'avv. Spataro, il prof. Palmieri; le LL. EE. gli Accademici Pontifici Pistolesi e Toniolo; una rappresentanza dell'Ufficio diocesano di Roma con a capo il professor Salvatori; la Redazione del nostro giornale, e numerosi direttori e redattori di altri giornali cattolici.

L'ingresso del Sommo Pontefice, qualche istante prima delle ore 10, è stato salutato dall'imponente moltitudine con una ardentissima manifestazione di filiale affetto, la quale diveniva sempre più vibrante man mano che il Santo Padre, in sedia gestatoria, percorreva la sala.

Assisosi Sua Santità in trono i presenti hanno cantato a gran voce le acclamazioni, quindi, ristabilitosi il silenzio, l'Augusto Pontefice pronunciava, tra la commossa

tori e maestri delle varie scienze e arti? Le questioni, che ad essi pone la pratica quotidiana della loro professione, non sono problemi di scuola, che possano essere risolti con la semplice applicazione di formule comuni già fatte, una volta per sempre apprese e comprese; sono problemi di vita attiva, gravi, complessi, dai dati molteplici e variabili, che soltanto uno spirito di cultura superiore è in grado di affrontare e sciogliere. La società umana è un corpo, che, al pari dell'uomo, ha cervello e diversi organi, come i polmoni e i reni; ma il cervello nel molteplice suo ufficio sovrintende alla direzione, alla coordinazione e alla regolarità dei fenomeni vitali; nè esso, per essere così alto, è tutto e il solo necessario nella compagine umana. Cervello nella vita di un popolo possono dirsi coloro che hanno ricevuto una formazione universitaria; simili a quei maiores *o superiores, che S. Tommaso a proposito della fede distingueva dai* minores *o* inferiores, *i quali aderiscono a loro, li ascoltano, li seguono e ne ricevono la verità e la regola* (S. Th. *2a 2ae q.*

mpi del vero palese e occulto; onde randi e sublimi genii dei secoli criiani seppero fare la loro ragione anella della fede e chinare la fronte al disonor del Golgota». A questa fede ai trionfi avvezza» voi, ai quali divina Provvidenza ha dato e dà di partecipare largamente a così elevata formazione intellettuale, avete — in modo speciale nella fervida attività dell'Azione Cattolica — il dovere di spianare la via in molti cuori, e far cessare quel pernicioso divorzio, ristabilire i contatti, riannodare i legami, assicurare la penetrazione mutua dei due mondi del sapere, alta scienza universitaria e lume rivelato da Cristo. Ciò che i Padri della Chiesa operarono già di fronte alla cultura pagana greco-romana, ciò che con Giustino e Origene essi intrapresero sin dal trapassare dei tempi apostolici, ciò in che così splendida grandeggia la figura di un Agostino, ciò da cui nacquero il pensiero e la civiltà cristiana del Medio Evo e le nazioni credenti furono la Cristianità; ecco l'eccelsa meta e l'ardua e magnifica opera che si presenta e si of-

imitare il grande Apostolo Paolo, il quale diceva di sè che quando era fanciullo, parlava da fanciullo, aveva gusti da fanciullo, pensava da fanciullo; divenuto poi uomo, smise quelle cose che erano da fanciullo (1 Cor. *13-11*). *Non già che abbiate da smettere e dimenticare il Catechismo, sommo codice della fede e della morale cristiana; ma indispensabile per la vostra missione nell'Azione Cattolica diviene una cultura religiosa più approfondita e più personale da uomo maturo. Nei vostri circoli universitari profani voi non troverete ascolto per le vostre convinzioni cattoliche che se vi porrete in grado di presentarle e francamente difenderle sull'aperto terreno, dove suole muoversi il pensiero dei vostri interlocutori, in quei tornei di discussione scientifica, ma al tempo stesso vivente, scevra di superficiale verbosità, pacata nella sua dignità, senza quella contesa che immediatamente spiacerebbe e alienerebbe gli animi.*

Ma ciò che più concilia stima e credito alla parola e alla verità è l'accordo fra il vostro perfezionamento intellettuale e il vostro perfezionamento

denti universitari e laureati cattolici, di essere da meno di altri nella palestra del valore scientifico e della competenza, della estesa cognizione e della capacità nell'esercizio della vostra professione. Per l'onore dell'Azione Cattolica, a cui partecipate, studiatevi, sforzatevi, per quanto il vostro ingegno e l'ardore vostro vi sospingono e vi conducono, di farvi i migliori, i migliori studenti, i migliori professori, i migliori giuristi, letterati, medici, ingegneri, naturalisti, fisiologi, investigatori della materia e dello spirito, del vero e del bene individuale e sociale. Ciò richiede la gloria e il nome del Maestro che servite, Deus scientiarum Dominus, *Dio onnisciente, affinchè voi siate in tutto degni di lui; ciò richiede l'amore che voi dovete portare alla vocazione vostra, alla vostra professione, a coloro che vi sono compagni nella via, che vi ha segnata la divina Provvidenza. Vivete pure intensamente la vostra vita universitaria, con tutto quello di buono, di grande e di bello che vi offre la sua serietà scientifica, come il suo sano e schietto « cameratismo »: è un dovere per voi, non meno che la forma più efficace*

ne dalla folla dei giovani che, con i più anziani, avevano alle ore 8 ascoltato la S. Messa celebrata nella Basilica Vaticana dall'Em.mo Signor Cardinale Pietro Boetto. Foltissime le delegazioni delle varie Associazioni Universitarie convenute — con quelle di Roma al completo — da ogni parte d'Italia: notevoli le sezioni dei Laureati, ai quali si erano aggiunte numerose personalità del laicato dirigenti o ex-dirigenti dell'Azione Cattolica insieme a moltissimi Assistenti Ecclesiastici.

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Assisosi Sua Santità in trono i presenti hanno cantato a gran voce le acclamazioni, quindi, ristabilitosi il silenzio, l'Augusto Pontefice pronunciava, tra la commossa attenzione dei presenti un paterno elevatissimo discorso di sapienti direttive e di preziosi insegnamenti che riportiamo così come lo abbiamo potuto raccogliere dalle auguste labbra:

La venerata parola di Sua Santità

Nei tesori del retaggio lasciatoCi dal glorioso Nostro Predecessore Pio XI di s. m. brilla, come gemma, che Noi avremo sempre a cuore di conservare fedelmente, la sua particolare affezione per l'Azione Cattolica, da lui energicamente promossa e inculcata quale mezzo efficacissimo per la Chiesa allo svolgimento della sua missione nel mondo; sublime missione che assomma in sè il magistero della fede, il battesimo per tutte le genti e il magistero della morale verso tutti i credenti nell'insegnamento di quanto Cristo ha ordinato, secondo la parola di Lui: Euntes ergo docete omnes gentes, baptizantes eos...: docentes eos servare omnia quaecumque mandavi vobis (Matth. *28, 19-20*). *La divina missione di Cristo trapassava nelle mani di Pietro e degli Apostoli, e generava intorno a loro, nei discepoli e nei fedeli, quel fermento di sincerità e di verità, di grazia e di virtù, che era la conversione e rinnovazione delle anime, e al fianco dei Vescovi e del clero inaugurava l'aurora dell'Azione Cattolica.*

Onde l'Azione Cattolica è antica quanto il Cristianesimo; e se il suo nome suona alto e commuove nell'età nostra, il perenne suo spirito si è rinfiammato nella lotta, che contro la Chiesa, la dottrina di Cristo, la pratica della fede, il mondo presente combatte con l'indifferenza morale, con la scienza di falso nome, con le passioni della concupiscenza posta nel maligno (*cfr.* 1 Joann. *5, 19*). *Per questo fra i gruppi, il cui ricco insieme costituisce l'importante organismo dell'Azione Cattolica, il Nostro Antecessore, come voi ben sapete, diletti figli e figlie, nutriva una speciale predilezione per la Gioventù universitaria; predilezione che non escludeva nè raffreddava in lui l'amore per ciascuno degli altri figli della grande famiglia dell'Azione Cattolica* (*cfr.* Discorso alla Presidenza generale e al Consiglio direttivo della Fuci — *11 gennaio 1925*), *nella quale anche la minima Associazione grandeggia, chiamata com'è a promuovere la vera vita delle anime, la vita soprannaturale, destinata a schiudersi, quale germe in fiore e in frutto, per tutti noi nella gloria e nella gioia del cielo.*

Ma accanto alle sei grandi Associazioni di A. C. si svolge il movimento dei «Laureati», i quali, come intendono di collaborare all'apostolato gerarchico con i mezzi particolari forniti loro dalla cultura, così trovano a sè dall'Azione Cattolica offerta un'appropriata assistenza religiosa e morale, che valga a rendere più efficace la loro attività. Un tale movimento, sebbene costituisca una Sezione speciale, distinta dalle Associazioni degli studenti universitari, ha tuttavia con esse questo di comune, che anche i «Laureati», se hanno già varcato la soglia delle Università e delle Scuole superiori, furono un tempo «Laureandi», parteciparono anch'essi alla vita e alla vocazione universitaria; vocazione elevata, che crea nei ranghi dell'Azione Cattolica bisogni, possibilità e doveri speciali, comuni a voi tutti, uomini e donne, giovani e persone mature.

E' un fatto patente e innegabile che ai circoli universitari, alle classi di cultura superiore, è riservato un posto singolare, una parte eminente nell'ordine sociale. Non già che quanti si danno agli alti studi di sapere e di scienze eccellano e primeggino sempre sopra gli altri. Dio non ha mutato il modo naturale di plasmare la varia acutezza delle menti e degl'ingegni umani. Anche fra i semplici operai voi incontrate spiriti di primo grado, i quali non sedettero che sui banchi delle scuole elementari. Ma pure tutti riconoscono che la Gioventù universitaria e i Laureati formano un ceto nettamente distinto dagli altri, si affratellano immediatamente fra loro, per quel vincolo di formazione intellettuale ricevuta negli Istituti d'insegnamento superiore. Là, se all'intelletto andò unito il buon volere, appresero un vasto complesso di cognizioni varie e precise; ma ancor più acquistarono quella capacità di giudizio personale, che è il frutto di lungo studio e osservazione, quel criterio, che genera la critica metodica e rigorosa dei fatti e delle idee, la facoltà di dominare i problemi più complicati e più delicati, in altri termini lo spirito scientifico, la possibilità di sapere da se stessi e non puramente di ricevere da altri la scienza già fatta. Non è forse una tale capacità richiesta e supposta per l'esercizio di quelle funzioni, che qualificano i giudici, gli avvocati, i medici, gl'ingegneri, i dottori dell'uomo, ma cervello e diversi organi, come i polmoni e i reni; ma il cervello nel molteplice suo ufficio sovrintende alla direzione, alla coordinazione e alla regolarità dei fenomeni vitali; nè esso, per essere così alto, è tutto e il solo necessario nella compagine umana. Cervello nella vita di un popolo possono dirsi coloro che hanno ricevuto una formazione universitaria; simili a quei maiores o superiores, *che S. Tommaso a proposito della fede distingueva dai* minores o inferiores, *i quali aderiscono a loro, li ascoltano, li seguono e ne ricevono la verità e la regola* (S. Th. *2a 2ae q. 2 a. 6*).

In contrasto, sovranamente doloroso, colla luce di multiforme scienza ed esperienza, che, se ben diretta, viene dalle Università e dagli Atenei, si levano le tenebre che premono come una delle cause principali dell'abisso morale, in cui oggidì si dibatte il mondo; vogliamo dire il divorzio che separa un numero considerevole degli uomini di alta cultura dal pensiero cristiano. Le Università e gli Studi Generali non sono di oggi nè di ieri; sono nati nel Medio Evo dal seno e sotto la protezione della Chiesa. Anche allora voi vi trovate talvolta errori, eresie, teoriche antisociali; tuttavia in quei tempi, oggi non di rado tanto denigrati, per le Università formatrici e direttrici delle menti, nell'atmosfera generale, aleggiava il pensiero delle concezioni cristiane e splendeva la face di quella fede, che non umilia gl'ingegni, e, se li pone in ginocchio, li fa più grandi innanzi alla verità e alla veracità di Dio che ha parlato, e nell'accordo mirabile della scienza della ragione con la scienza divina rende angelico un intelletto umano. Ma col lento lavoro di disgregazione spirituale originata dall'umanesimo paganeggiante, dal libero esame, del filosofismo fumoso del secolo decimottavo, dall'idealismo e dal positivismo del decimonono, contro i quali grida la realtà del mondo e dell'uomo, che cosa è avvenuto? Quali vantaggi e progressi ne hanno raccolti la società, la famiglia, la persona umana? Date uno sguardo alla cultura universitaria, voi che ne frequentate o ne frequentaste le aule. Quanti campi di studi e di ricerche scientifiche si sono svolti e dilatati fuori di ogni contatto col pensiero cattolico, senza tenere in alcun conto il gran fatto della rivelazione soprannaturale, allargandosi in un ambito, se non sempre antireligioso, almeno non curante della religione! Donde un funesto scristianarsi dello spirito in tanti di quei maiores, *chiamati a condurre i loro fratelli, a illuminare gli altri, a pensare per essi, a guidarli nella vita, con quegli amari frutti che ci fa gustare il presente.*

Da questo divorzio e antagonismo fra la scienza e la religione la verità non può venire ottenebrata nè sbalzata dal suo trono di luce, perchè essa medesima è luce e trono, vestigio e fulgore della luce inaccessibile, in cui Dio ha il suo trono, e da cui scendono all'uomo, come due rivi da unica fonte, le verità della ragione e le verità della fede, non mai tra loro in contrasto, ma sorelle di disuguale bellezza. Le une e le altre non disdegnano, anzi amano di dimorare amiche nella mente umana, avida di tutti i ristabilire i contatti, l'annodare i legami, assicurare la penetrazione mutua dei due mondi del sapere, alta scienza universitaria e lume rivelato da Cristo. Ciò che i Padri della Chiesa operarono già di fronte alla cultura pagana greco-romana, ciò che con Giustino e Origene essi intrapresero sin dal trapassare dei tempi apostolici, ciò in che così splendida grandeggia la figura di un Agostino, ciò da cui nacquero il pensiero e la civiltà cristiana del Medio Evo e le nazioni credenti furono la Cristianità; ecco l'eccelsa meta e l'ardua e magnifica opera che si presenta e si offre al vostro zelo, diletti figli e figlie. Sia che voi apparteniate alla Università Cattolica del S. Cuore in Milano, sia che attendiate alle scienze come studenti o insegnanti nelle altre Università o Scuole Superiori, la vostra vocazione non muta, e voi dovete corrispondervi con una medesima stretta e cordiale fraternità e unione di spirito, di cuore e di azione. La Chiesa, non mai nemica delle scienze e delle arti, ama e si dà pensiero di avere propri centri di alta cultura, ove libera e piena possa esercitare l'operazione sua; ma non per questo è ligia ad accettare che la verità, di cui custodisce il deposito, resti assente e senza influsso e lume negli altri centri, l'ordinamento dei quali più o meno prescinde dallo sguardo cattolico. E voi appunto, in cui questa verità vive per la fede e agisce per la carità, che si rallegra del godimento della verità, avete a portarla dappertutto, a farla risplendere dappertutto, a farla desiderare e amare e godere dappertutto.

Vi farete voi dunque araldi della verità cattolica? Sarete voi i nuovi apostoli del Vangelo in seno alla società dei dotti e dei sapienti moderni? Sì; questo vuol esser il vostro apostolato al fianco e sotto la dipendenza della Gerarchia ecclesiastica. Ma per adempire una tale missione senza pericolo per voi e con efficacia intorno a voi, è necessario innanzi tutto che nella mente e nell'anima vostra non vi sia squilibrio tra la vostra cultura religiosa e la vostra cultura universitaria, generale e speciale. La vostra intelligenza dei dogmi (per quel che è concesso al loro chiarimento con la ragione), la vostra conoscenza della morale, del culto e della vita interiore cattolica, non debbono forse elevarsi a un livello proporzionato alle vostre cognizioni scientifiche in diritto, in storia, in lettere o in biologia? E non sarebbe già per voi un pericolo formidabile se, in tale maturamento del vostro giudizio, del vostro acume critico, del vostro pensiero personale, voi vi appagaste, nelle cose della fede, di rimanere, quasi fanciulli, alle nozioni e alle prove che vi furono insegnate nel corso dei vostri studi elementari o medi? Per quante anime, ahimè, di qui ebbe origine prima l'interna crisi, onde furono condotte alla perdita della fede! Si continua a credere per abitudine fino al giorno in cui, di fronte a difficoltà più forti, sorge il dubbio, e nella lotta che si presenta a uno spirito formato ai problemi imposti dalla cultura superiore, non si hanno alla mano per la vittoria che armi di valore elementare, ragioni e spiegazioni insufficienti per rispondere agli assalti della tentazione, di ribatterli e tranquillare l'intelletto. Voi dovete vostri circoli universitari profani voi non troverete ascolto per le vostre convinzioni cattoliche che se vi porrete in grado di presentarle e francamente difenderle sull'aperto terreno, dove suole muoversi il pensiero dei vostri interlocutori, in quei tornei di discussione scientifica, ma al tempo stesso vivente, scevra di superficiale verbosità, pacata nella sua dignità, senza quella contesa che immediatamente spiacerebbe e alienerebbe gli animi.

Ma ciò che più concilia stima e credito alla parola e alla verità è l'accordo fra il vostro perfezionamento intellettuale e il vostro perfezionamento morale e spirituale: uno squilibrio che fosse in voi tra l'intelletto e la volontà, tra la verità e la pratica del bene, richiamerebbe alla mente l'immagine di coloro, dai quali Cristo ammonì i suoi discepoli di guardarsi: dicunt enim et non faciunt (Matth. *23, 3*). *Nella sincerità del vero cristiano la verità della fede e la regola del costume sono inseparabili, perchè la conoscenza delle cose divine è il necessario fondamento della buona vita e ne addita e rischiara il cammino. Come una vita intellettuale, così voi dovete possedere anche una vita morale interiore di* maiores: *sono due vite che ne formano una sola, la vita del campione, segnato in fronte col crisma del buon soldato di Cristo. Non è forse lamentevole la debolezza di tanti uomini dotati di spirito superiormente colto, nei quali il carattere e il valore morale restano così miserevolmente inferiori alla mente? E non è questa la cagione profonda di certe incoerenze e incongruità inesplicabili, anche nell'ordine meramente scientifico? L'alta vita intellettiva, infatti, se già per se stessa impone austeri obblighi, quanto più ne impone, qualora intenda dispiegarsi e svolgersi in piena atmosfera e campo cristiano? La scienza è un vino squisito, che a volte dà facilmente alla testa. Nei lavori, così delle ricerche come dell'insegnamento, le passioni potranno, in qualche lato che sfugga al dominio della ragione e della volontà, recare il disordine; curiosità, vanità, orgoglio, cedevolezza, gelosia staranno in agguato. Sarà l'ora del cimento e della lotta fra la passione e il dovere. Un vero dotto, un vero maestro, un vero giurista, un vero clinico, non varranno a stare saldi sicuramente e pienamente alla via e alla dignità della loro professione senza una forte vita interiore, un senso delicato del dovere, senza quel vigore delle virtù che i cristiani attingono alle più feconde e inesauribili di tutte le fonti, gli esempi e la grazia di Nostro Signore. Dunque vita cristiana, piena, profonda, forte, solida, nutrita della dottrina e dei sacramenti di Cristo, mantenuta nella preghiera e nella meditazione, sostenuta con lotta generosa contro tutto ciò che potrebbe contrariarla, offenderla o indebolirla: ecco l'usbergo più nobile e fulgido del laureando e del laureato cristiano e cattolico per ogni cimento.*

In questa buona lotta, se il lucro dell'anima vale più che la conquista di tutto il mondo (*cfr.* Matth. *16, 26*), *ha nondimeno da presentarsi e muoversi e operare al tempo stesso la vita universitaria, la vita professionale, non meno saggia e franca, non meno larga e intensa. Non accettate, voi studi e la vostra attività professionale del vero e del bene individuale e sociale. Ciò richiede la gloria e il nome del Maestro che servite,* Deus scientiarum Dominus, *Dio onniscient, affinchè voi siate in tutto degni di lui; ciò richiede l'amore che voi dovete portare alla vocazione vostra, alla vostra professione, a coloro che vi sono compagni nella via, che vi ha segnata la divina Provvidenza. Vivete pure intensamente la vostra vita universitaria, con tutto quello di buono, di grande* **e di bello che vi offre la sua serietà** *scientifica, come il suo sano e schietto «cameratismo»: è un dovere per voi, non meno che la forma più efficace del vostro apostolato, della vostra propria Azione Cattolica. Nulla renderà la vostra fede cristiana simpatica e attraente intorno a voi, quanto il vederla aperta, sincera, profonda, unirsi in voi, con gioioso e cordiale vincolo, alla vostra vita universitaria e al vivace interessamento per tutto ciò che vale a promuoverla e abbellirla.*

Ma in questo cristiano apostolato fra i dotti delle scienze profane non raramente avviene che si entra in argomenti ardui anche per i teologi e gli interpreti dei Libri Sacri, senza quell'ampia e sicura cognizione che salvi la verità della scienza e la stima della fede. Onde il grande apologista, S. Agostino, fin dal suo tempo lamentava la temeraria presunzione di alcuni cristiani, i quali ad asserzioni di cose fisiche, sostenute dai pagani con ragioni certissime e con esperienza, opponevano i loro deliramenti sopra la Sacra Scrittura, tanto da muovere a riso e dimostrare di non intendere ciò che dicevano nè ciò che affermavano (*cfr.* 1 Timot. *1, 7*) Et non tam molestum est, *dice il santo Dottore,* quod errans homo deridetur, sed quod auctores nostri ab eis, qui foris sunt, talia sensisse creduntur, et cum magno eorum exitio, de quorum salute satagimus, tanquam indocti reprehenduntur, atque respuuntur. Cum enim quemquam de numero christianorum in ea re quam optime norunt errare deprehenderint, et vanam sententiam suam de nostris Libris adserere; quo pacto illis Libris crediturі sunt, de resurrectione mortuorum et de spe vitae aeternae regnoque caelorum, quando de his rebus quas jam experiri, vel indubitatis numeris percipere potuerunt, fallaciter putaverint esse conscriptos? (De Genesi ad litt., *l. I, c. 19 — Migne PL. t. 34 col. 261*). *Da ciò voi ben vedete con quanta ragione per un proficuo apostolato in mezzo all'alta cultura sia necessario che vadano unite profonda scienza profana della natura e profonda scienza religiosa delle verità della fede per additare altrui l'accordo fra l'intelletto umano e la rivelazione divina.*

Tutto questo, è vero, esige coraggio, energia, costanza, diciamolo apertamente, vera e generosa abnegazione cristiana. Uno studio, un lavoro superficiale, leggero, da dilettante, saltuario, in balia delle impressioni, non arriverà certo a grandi frutti e giovamenti. Solo un animo virile si erge franco innanzi alla previsione del faticare lungo, spesso penoso, arido, oscuro, senza lo stimolo dell'appagamento intimo; ma essere e rimanere esigenti verso voi medesimi è pure un vostro dovere, richiesto per i vostri studi e la vostra attività professionale

altrettanto che per la vostra vita religiosa e morale.

Il vostro vuol essere, in ogni modo, lavoro coraggioso e lieto, nell'umiltà e nella carità. Non dimenticate mai che restano quaggiù la fede, la speranza, la carità, queste tre cose; la più grande però di esse è la carità; perchè la carità non viene mai meno: ma le profezie passeranno e cesseranno le lingue; e la scienza sarà abolita, o piuttosto, come la fede, si tramuterà in visione, in un mondo più bello di questo in cui viviamo (1 Cor. *13,8-13*). *Non insuperbite innanzi agli uomini, e umiliatevi davanti a Dio. La vostra cultura più alta non vi fa per se stessa migliori dei vostri fratelli che vedete in uffici più modesti; nè vi esalta tanto su di loro che spezzi il sublime vincolo e l'eccellentissima via della carità, per la quale anche la cultura scende a umiliarsi con gli umili per innalzarsi insieme nella scuola di Cristo.*

Rammentate che la verità è madre dell'umiltà e della carità. La vostra vocazione universitaria vi avvia ad essere le guide di coloro che vi circondano; e la prima e più alta lezione di verità, che voi avete da far loro accogliere e comprendere, è l'insegnamento di Cristo, trasmesso non meno a loro che a voi per la voce della Chiesa, Maestra e guida universale dei credenti. Ora, di questo divino insegnamento, nel nostro mondo sconvolto e dilaniato dalle contese e dalle guerre, qual lezione è più necessaria di quelle della umiltà e della carità, tanto instantemente inculcate con parole ed esempi dal divino Maestro, mite e umile di cuore? Per quanti, ahimè, queste parole: umiltà e carità, suonano assurde e prive di senso! Anche menti cristiane non si lasciano forse sviare e trascinare a non più comprenderne il vero significato e valore? O apostoli della verità, di quella verità, che sola è forte e fa i forti: insegnate non l'orgoglio, che è debole, che gonfia e non edifica, che è vanità che pare persona; ma il sentimento del dovere, il dominio di sè, il coraggio, l'eroismo nei cimenti e nei pericoli, quella virtù e quel valore che non s'insuperbisce nella vittoria e rende più amabile il vincitore. Giacchè non dell'orgoglio e della violenza abbisogna il mondo, bensì della carità e dell'amore, e insieme di quella umiltà che non è viltà, ma veracità della propria conoscenza, nè si esalta sopra se stessa, ma commisurasè medesima a sè, per prorompere con tutte le proprie forze, fidando in Dio, verso quel bene e quelle imprese che fanno degli umili i grandi, dei deboli i forti, degli stolti secondo il mondo i sapienti secondo Dio. Illusione e errore è l'orgoglio; verità è l'umiltà, come virtù è la carità. Verità è che tutti, anche i migliori e i più potenti fra gli uomini, non sono davanti a Dio che poveri peccatori e mendichi che attendono la parola e la mano della Ecclesiastiche, rappresentate presso di voi dai vostri benemeriti Assistenti, che vi aiutano e vi guidano nel compimento della vostra bella e difficile missione. Con l'umiltà la carità, vita del cuore, che trionfa sempre nel corso del secolo e di là dal secolo per trionfare alla consumazione dei secoli: carità che vi unisce in Cristo per l'opera comune ardentemente amata; carità che vi lega fraternamente, in una confidente collaborazione, con tutti gli altri rami dell'Azione cattolica; carità che, oltrepassando ogni differenza di condizioni, si estende ed effonde larga, illuminatrice e benefica a tutti coloro che vi circondano, nell'Università, nella scuola, nell'ufficio, come nell'esercizio della vostra professione, a quanti vi invia o vi dà accesso il vostro dovere o il vostro zelo.

Questo programma, Noi ben sappiamo, Noi ce ne rallegriamo e compiacciamo con voi, diletti figli e figlie, è il vostro degno e santo proposito, che vi applicate e impegnate di raffermare e attuare con tanto felice successo nelle vostre riunioni di pietà e di studio, nella vostra operosità e nelle vostre pubblicazioni. Affinchè la grazia divina, sempre pronta ad aiutare e perfezionare l'opera della vostra mente e del vostro cuore, vi conceda di far più e più efficacemente splendere negli atti e nelle parole il vostro alto e nobilmente cristiano intento, con paterno affetto vi accordiamo per voi e per le vostre opere, per le vostre famiglie e per tutte le persone che vi sono care, la Nostra Apostolica Benedizione.

Terminato il Discorso e impartita l'Apostolica Benedizione, mentre si rinnovava una entusiastica dimostrazione di filiale omaggio, il Santo Padre prendeva posto in una poltrona sul ripiano del Trono e amabilmente gradiva i doni: un artistico quadro dipinto dal Fratalocchi e rappresentante il Pontefice S. Eugenio I che accoglie nel quadriportico dell'antica Basilica Vaticana i giovani, i poveri e il clero che gli rendono omaggio; tre manoscritti di Giuseppe Toniolo dal titolo: «Giudizi e ammaestramenti sulla natura della catastrofe», «Per la concordia della coscienza pubblica» e «Lineamenti di un Istituto Cattolico di Diritto Internazionale; nonchè le più recenti pubblicazioni della *Editrice Studium*.

Quindi, con tratto di squisita bontà l'Augusto Pontefice si degnava ammettere tutti gli intervenuti al bacio della mano trattenendosi fra loro fin verso le ore 13, fatto segno a rinnovate e sempre più vibranti manifestazioni di riconoscenza e di devoto affetto.

Ognuno ha potuto così esprimere un devoto atto di gratitudine e, baciando con effusione la sacra Destra, rinnovare al Supremo Pastore ciò che già prima avevano detto ripetuti applausi durante e dopo il Discorso, vero fondamentale programma

CRONACA DI ROMA

Ricorre domani il sesto anniversario della morte di S. E. il Marchese prof. avv. Francesco Pacelli.

Il ritorno della mesta giornata ci rende ogni anno più vivo il ricordo della indimenticata e indimenticabile Figura di Gentiluomo, di Studioso, d'Uomo Politico.

Ed anche domani, così, quanti piangono quella crudele, improvvisa scomparsa si ritroveranno a pregare dal Cielo il meritato premio per l'Anima eletta, nella chiesa di S. Maria in Traspontina, ove dalle 7 alle 11 ogni ora saranno elevati al Signore dei Giusti i divini Sacrifici impetratori.

I funerali di fratel Viviano

Nel pomeriggio di sabato sono stati celebrati, come avevamo già annunciato, i funerali del compianto Fr. Viviano delle Scuole Cristiane.

Una grande folla di alunni e di amici ha voluto dare l'ultimo addio al caro Estinto, che con l'amabilità del suo carattere, la finezza delle sue maniere, la proverbiale sua bontà, aveva saputo attirarsi l'affetto di quanti l'avvicinarono.

Primo fra tutti l'Eminentissimo cardinale Francesco Marmaggi, che non pago d'aver confortato con le sue visite frequenti il caro maestro nei giorni della sua malattia, ha voluto anche assistere al funerale e accompagnarlo all'ultima dimora. Al momento della separazione Sua Eminenza visibilmente commosso, ha dato l'estremo saluto al «Maestro buono» che per cinquant'anni ha speso le sue migliori energie nell'educare i figli del popolo trasteverino, diventando, per affetto e residenza, trasteverino egli stesso. Ha esortato gli ex alunni a conservare cara la memoria di Fr. Viviano e che il suo ricordo sproni tutti a praticare sempre, senza compromessi e senza timori, quella fede che in lui era così grande e con tanto zelo e tanta efficacia aveva saputo infondere nell'animo loro.

A compimento delle sue parole l'Em.mo Porporato si avvicinò al feretro e vi impresse l'ultimo bacio. Insieme all'Eminentissimo abbiamo notato il Procuratore Generale dei Fratelli delle Scuole Cristiane, il Visitatore Provinciale di Roma; i Direttori di varie scuole dei Carissimi in Roma, ed una folla di personalità del clero e del laicato, di insegnanti e di ex alunni lasalliani.

Ed ora Fratel Viviano dorme al Verano il sonno dei giusti nella tomba dei Fratelli delle Scuole Cristiane.

Era nato il 26 luglio 1860. Vestiva l'abito religioso nel 1876. Appena compiuta la sua formazione religiosa e didattica fu inviato a esercitare il suo apostolato prima al collegio S. Giuseppe, poi nel 1885 in Trastevere nell'antica casa di piazza Mastai e vi restò per dodici anni.

Risale a quest'epoca la sua relazione con in Cardinale Merry Del Val, che allora, sacerdote novello, era regolatore della congregazione festiva della Scuola Mastai. Fr. Viviano fu grande aiuto all'Eminentissimo nella fondazione della Pia Associazione del Sacro Cuore di Gesù che tanto bene spirituale ha compiuto fra la gioventù trasteverina. In molte circostanze fu per mezzo di cui il caritatevole Porporato si servì per le sue secrete generose benefi-

XXV della Consacrazione episcopale di Sua Ecc.za Monsignor Olivares

I Salesiani e la parrocchia di S. Maria Liberatrice al Testaccio hanno festeggiato, ieri domenica, il XXV anniversario di Consacrazione episcopale di S. E. Monsignor Luigi M. Olivares, Vescovo di Nepi e Sutri, già venerato Superiore e zelante Pastore al Testaccio negli anni, ormai lontani, in cui reggeva le sorti spirituali del popoloso quartiere.

Sabato scorso, nel pomeriggio, S. E. Mons. Olivares aveva impartito la S. Cresima ad un gruppo di bambini e bambine della parrocchia e ieri mattina, domenica, aveva celebrato la S. Messa giubilare distribuendo anche la S. Prima Comunione. Il popolo di Testaccio, che non dimentica il bene seminato dai Salesiani e dallo stesso Ecc.mo Presule nel vasto quartiere romano, ha partecipato numeroso alla celebrazione del XXV di Consacrazione episcopale di colui che fu il suo zelante parroco e, nel pomeriggio, la manifestazione assunse una spontaneità ed una solennità particolarissime nella sala «Clemente» rigurgitante di rappresentanze di tutte le associazioni parrocchiali. Parlò, anzitutto, il direttore Don Pinci con felice rievocazione, rendendosi interprete dei riconoscenti sentimenti di tutti i parrocchiani verso S. E. Mons. Olivares; comunicò le adesioni, fra le quali da segnalare quelle di S. E. Mons. Emanuel, Vescovo di Castellammare di Stabia e di S. E. Monsignor Castelli, Vescovo titolare di Messene, e, infine, offrì all'Ecc.mo festeggiato i doni della parrocchia in così beneaugurale occasione. Seguì un ben preparato trattenimento nel quale la banda dei novizi salesiani dell'Istituto Pio XI e le rappresentanze dei tre benemeriti istituti religiosi femminili residenti in parrocchia, Suore della Divina Provvidenza, Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice e Figlie della Carità, si alternarono nella ammirata esecuzione di uno scelto programma accademico-musicale.

Il discorso commemorativo fu tenuto da Mario Cingolani.

S. E. Mons. Olivares chiuse con parole semplici e commosse e nel ringraziare tutti i presenti dell'onore reso alla sua persona volle ricordare la N. D. Antonietta Cingolani-Spinola che fu un tesoro di bontà e di carità cristiana per i parrocchiani di S. Maria Liberatrice; impartì, infine, la pastorale benedizione che tutti ricevettero con filiale devozione.

NEGLI ISTITUTI DI CULTURA

La Reale Accademia d'Italia

conferisce i premi e gli encomi per gli studi

Cicognani - Pea - Eucken - Lugli e numerosi altri premiati

Un encomio solenne a S. E. Mons. Celso Costantini

Questa mattina, lunedì XXI Aprile, nella Sala delle Prospettive la Reale Accademia d'Italia s'è riunita in solenne tornata per l'annuale cerimonia del conferimento dei premi ad artisti e scienziati italiani.

Il premio «Mussolini» per la letteratura è stato conferito a Bruno Cicognani; il premio «Angelo Silvio Novaro» di prosa narrativa ad Enrico Pea; il premio «Stefano Cannizzaro» di fisica e chimica ad Arnold Eucken; il premio «Roma» di storiografia a Giuseppe Lugli.

Oltre questi premi sono stati conferiti dalle varie classi accademiche gli encomi solenni a molti studiosi ed enti, fra cui: *Classe di scienze morali e storiche:* Nello Quilici (alla memoria), Ufficio storico della Regia Marina; *Classe di scienze fisiche, matematiche e naturali* prof. Giovanni Perez; *Classe di lettere:* Gino Rocca (alla memoria); P. Pasquale d'Elia, S. J.; *Classe delle arti:* S. E. Mons. Celso Costantini, conte Guido Chigi-Seracinelli.

A questi encomi solenni vanno aggiunti i premi accademici assegnati a molti studiosi fra cui: prof. Luigi Sanzo (alla memoria), Ugo Betti, Orio Vergani, gen. Augusto Agostini, gen. Mario Caracciolo, Alessandro Del Vita, Agostino Turla, prof. Luigi Parpagliolo.

Infine sono stati conferiti anche i premi del Ministero dell'educazione e delle fondazioni annesse alla R. Accademia d'Italia.

Non sono stati assegnati: il premio del Ministero dell'educazione per le scienze matematiche; il premio del Ministero del-

classe di lettere della R. Accademia d'Italia ha conferito un premio con le rispettive motivazioni seguenti: «Il prof. Guido Bargellini, eminente cultore di chimica organica e titolare della cattedra di detta disciplina nell'Ateneo romano, merita di essere segnalato non solo per gli importanti contributi che ha portato nel campo dei suoi studi con pregevoli ricerche originali, ma anche per l'opera assidua di maestro insigne, che non risparmia alcuna fatica per l'insegnamento. Oltre ad un apprezzato libro di esercizi di chimica organica, che guida l'allievo a risalire dai dati analitici e chimico-fisici alla determinazione della costituzione dei composti, egli ha pubblicato un trattato di chimica organica, del quale è apparsa di recente la seconda edizione a stampa. Questo trattato per la chiarezza della esposizione, per la razionale disposizione della materia, per la cura posta nell'aggiornamento dei dati, risultano di una nobile fatica didattica quotidianamente vissuta e di un assiduo ed ammirevole studio dei più moderni progressi compiuti dalla disciplina che è esposta, costituisce un apporto pregevole alla nostra letteratura scientifica. L'Accademia ha pertanto ritenuto di segnalare l'opera e l'autore con l'attribuzione di uno dei premi accademici».

«La statua di sale *di Agostino Turla è un libro che s'ispira direttamente, e non di rado con vigore e nitidezza, alla natura e agli uomini, è quindi, nelle pagine migliori, vivo e profondo. I contadini e la*

Città del Vaticano

Concerto della Guardia Svizzera

Ieri, Domenica in Albis, la musica della Guardia Svizzera Pontificia diretta dal maestro A. Caluori ha dato nel cortile della Giardia il consueto concerto pasquale.

Sono stati eseguiti egregiamente i seguenti brani musicali: Montavon: *Saluto a Puntrut, Marcia;* Kéla Bella: *Ouverture di una commedia;* Palestrina: *Canto del XVI secolo;* Vellenwyder: *Patria ed estero, Fantasia;* Ringeisen: *I gabbiani del Lago di Zurigo;* Rudaz: *Liberi figli delle Alpi: Marcia.* Il concerto è stato vivamente applaudito dall'eletta folla intervenuta.

Per il Natale di Roma

Oggi per la ricorrenza del Natale di Roma la bandiera nazionale è stata issata sulla Torre Capitolina e sui balconi dei palazzi dei Conservatori e dei Musei; la bandiera di Roma sulla loggia del Palazzo Senatorio. All'Esedra arborea del Foro dell'Impero Fascista e all'Esedra di Termini sono state issate le bandiere nazionali e di Roma e la bandiera nazionale sulle Torri delle Milizie e dei Conti.

Tutti gli edifici governatoriali hanno esposto le bandiere nazionali e di Roma. Le vetture autotramviarie e le altre in servizio pubblico sono pure imbandierate.

Bande militari presteranno servizio durante le ore pomeridiane nelle pubbliche piazze.

ROMA SACRA

A S. ANDREA DELLE FRATTE

La festa del glorioso Taumaturgo San Francesco di Paola, Fondatore dell'Ordine dei Minimi, si celebrerà, con la consueta solennità, il giorno 27 aprile, seconda domenica dopo Pasqua.

I fedeli che in tante circostanze hanno sperimentato il valido patrocinio di San Francesco di Paola, il Santo dei Miracoli, non mancheranno certamente di manifestare a lui la loro devota gratitudine, prendendo parte con religioso fervore alle sacre funzioni che avranno luogo con il seguente ordine:

Nei giorni 24, 25, 26, alle ore 19: triduo solenne di preparazione; Rosario, discorso del P. Diomede Scaramuzzi O. F. M., e benedizione. Il 26 primi vespri.

Il giorno 27 alle ore 9: Messa della Comunione generale, celebrata dal Rev.mo P. Correttore Generale. Vestizione e professione di Terziari; assoluzione generale. Alle ore 10,30: Messa Pontificale celebrata da S. E. Mons. Ermenegildo Pasetto, Segretario della Sacra Congregazione dei Religiosi. Alle 18,30: Rosario, canto dei vespri, panegirico e benedizione eucaristica impartita dall'Em.mo Signor Cardinale Ermenegildo Pellegrinetti.

Per benigna concessione dei Sommi Pontefici dal mezzogiorno del 26 a tutto il giorno della festa si può lucrare l'indulgenza plenaria *toties quoties* applicabile anche ai defunti.

A S. ALFONSO ALL'ESQUILINO

Nel 75° anniversario del ritorno della Madonna del Perpetuo Soccorso sull'Esquilino, i **Padri Redentoristi**, custodi della vetusta e prodigiosa Immagine celebreranno solenni festeggiamenti in onore della Universale Mediatrice delle grazie

violenza abbisogna il mondo, bensì della carità e dell'amore, e insieme di quella umiltà che non è viltà, ma veracità della propria conoscenza, nè si esalta sopra se stessa, ma commisura sè medesima a sè, per prorompere con tutte le proprie forze, fidando in Dio, verso quel bene e quelle imprese che fanno degli umili i grandi, dei deboli i forti, degli stolti secondo il mondo i sapienti secondo Dio. Illusione e errore è l'orgoglio; verità è l'umiltà, come virtù è la carità. Verità è che tutti, anche i migliori e i più potenti fra gli uomini, non sono davanti a Dio che poveri peccatori e mendichi che attendono la parola e la mano della sua misericordia. Verità è che tutti gli uomini sono fratelli, nella società umana nessuno estraneo all'altro, i poveri bisognosi dei ricchi, i ricchi debitori ai poveri, i forti ai deboli, i sapienti agl'insipienti, tutti usciti dalla medesima polvere e dalle dita di Dio, riscattati tutti dal medesimo Salvatore, in cammino tutti verso la medesima Casa del Padre celeste, ove tutti sono chiamati a partecipare alla medesima felicità. Verità è che tutti, figli di un medesimo padre e di un medesimo sangue, qualunque cielo o lingua o costume li separi, sono dunque fatti per amarsi, per aiutarsi, in mezzo ai mutui bisogni, fraternamente nel viaggio di quaggiù. Non è questo l'universale e unico panorama interamente vero e verace della vita sociale presente? Che è ogni altra visione se non aereo miraggio e falsa apparenza?

Queste virtù dell'umiltà e della carità, che trionferanno alla consumazione dei secoli, allorchè Cristo esalterà gli umili e premierà i caritatevoli, non sono nemiche o indecorose alla dignità umana, nè diminuiscono l'amore della patria, nè scemano il valore o impediscono al cittadino, che in una guerra veramente giusta lotta per la difesa, l'onore e la salute del suo Paese, di combattere con piena fortezza contro un avversario armato a superarlo. Ma la carità, benefica com'è, non gode dell'iniquità neppure sui campi di battaglia e nelle vicende più dure: essa vieta a chi combatte di infierire contro gli innocenti o di punire i colpevoli oltre i limiti della giustizia, e to premunisce contro quel sentimento interno che S. Agostino riprovava scrivendo: Nocendi cupiditas, ulciscendi crudelitas, impacatus atque impacabilis animus, feritas rebellandi, libido dominandi, et si qua similia; haec sunt quae in bellis iure culpantur (Contra Faustum, l. *22, c. 74 — Migne PL, t. 42 col. 447*).

In quest'ora di fermenti di mali che sembrano superare i fermenti del bene, e aver tramutato il tempus dilectionis *in* tempus odii (Eccle. *3, 8*); *in questa stagione di bufera che dà vertigini e tante cose fa dimenticare, nel tremendo vortice del cozzo delle passioni; ecco, diletti figli e figlie, la grande lezione di Cristo, Maestro delle genti, in voi speranza di gloria, che dovete far comprendere e richiamare intorno a voi, con leale e non pavida affermazione della vostra fede cattolica, e più ancora con l'esempio della vostra vita, umile e caritatevole in tutto lo splendore della sua alta cultura e della sua irradiazione scientifica. Umile con la franca e aperta cordialità e l'oblio di voi stessi nei vostri rapporti, con coloro sopratutto che la Provvidenza ha destinati a posizione più modesta; umile anche con filiale e fiduciosa sommessione alle Autorità* pubblica» e «Lineamenti di un Istituto Cattolico di Diritto Internazionale; nonchè le più recenti pubblicazioni della *Editrice Studium*.

Quindi, con tratto di squisita bontà l'Augusto Pontefice si degnava ammettere tutti gli intervenuti al bacio della mano trattenendosi fra loro fin verso le ore 13, fatto segno a rinnovate e sempre più vibranti manifestazioni di riconoscenza e di devoto affetto.

Ognuno ha potuto così esprimere un devoto atto di gratitudine e, baciando con effusione la sacra Destra, rinnovare al Supremo Pastore ciò che già prima avevano detto ripetuti applausi durante e dopo il Discorso, vero fondamentale programma di vita e di azione: essere cioè tutti e ciascuno animati dal più fervente proposito di attuare gli insegnamenti salutari del Vicario di Gesù Cristo.

Infine, allorchè il Santo Padre, dopo la bellissima e cara Udienza durata circa tre ore, lasciava l'Aula, una nuova calorosissima dimostrazione di amore Lo salutava, mentre Egli rinnovava, instancabile, la Sua Benedizione.

La Santità di Nostro Signore ha ricevuto in private udienze:

le Loro Eminenze Reverendissime i Signori Cardinali:

— Francesco Marmaggi, Prefetto della Sacra Congregazione del Concilio,

— Pietro Boetto, Arcivescovo di Genova;

le Loro Eccellenze Rev.me i Monsignori:

— Carlo De Ferrari, Arcivescovo di Trento,

— Giovanni Battista Peruzzo, Vescovo di Agrigento,

— Adriano Bernareggi, Vescovo di Bergamo;

l'Ill.mo e Rev.mo Monsignore Angelo Perugini, Segretario delle Lettere Latine;

il Rev.mo Padre Giustino Borgonovo, Missionario di Rho;

S. E. il Prof. Antonio Toniolo e famiglia;

il Gr. Uff. Avv. Giovanni Battista Migliori e famiglia.

Riunione del comitato di coordinamento tra le opere per l'Unità della Chiesa

Nei giorni scorsi si sono riuniti a Roma, presso l'Em.mo Cardinale Luigi Lavitrano, i promotori del Comitato di coordinamento fra le opere per l'unità della Chiesa. Oltre ai partecipanti alla prima riunione erano presenti anche i rappresentanti di opere che hanno aderito nel frattempo.

I convenuti hanno potuto rilevare con soddisfazione la favorevole accoglienza che la costituzione del Centro ha avuto nel ceto interessato, accoglienza dimostrata sia con le varie adesioni, sia con l'eco che la comunicazione ha avuto sulla stampa cattolica.

A proposito delle adesioni fu stabilito che il Centro accetta solo quelle di opere a carattere nazionale e invita le altre, che intendano aderire al movimento, a far capo a quella, fra le associazioni nazionali, che è più affine al loro carattere.

Discussi poi alcuni schemi di statuto per il centro ne fu formulato uno definitivo che sarà presentato alle superiori autorità per l'approvazione.

Furono poi presi in speciale esame i rapporti tra il Centro di Coordinamento e l'Azione Cattolica Italiana che si prepara a dare all'opera per l'unità della Chiesa tutto l'apporto della sua organizzazione nazionale.

Ed ora Fratel Viviano dorme al Verano il sonno dei giusti nella tomba dei Fratelli delle Scuole Cristiane.

Era nato il 26 luglio 1860. Vestiva l'abito religioso nel 1876. Appena compiuta la sua formazione religiosa e didattica fu inviato a esercitare il suo apostolato prima al collegio S. Giuseppe, poi nel 1885 in Trastevere nell'antica casa di piazza Mastai e vi restò per dodici anni.

Risale a quest'epoca la sua relazione con in Cardinale Merry Del Val, che allora, sacerdote novello, era regolatore della congregazione festiva della Scuola Mastai. Fr. Viviano fu grande aiuto all'Eminentissimo nella fondazione della Pia Associazione del Sacro Cuore di Gesù che tanto bene spirituale ha compiuto fra la gioventù trasteverina. In molte circostanze fu mezzo di cui il caritatevole Porporato si servì per le sue secrete generose beneficenze in favore di famiglie bisognose. Il Cardinale sempre conservò di lui stima, affetto, e venerazione.

Inviato Fr. Viviano dai superiori nel 1898 ad insegnare in altre scuole di Roma, ritornò al suo Trastevere quale Direttore della Scuola al viale del Re nel 1903, è d'allora non si è più mosso. se non per essere trasportato all'ultima dimora. Dire il bene da lui esercitato nei cinquant'anni di vita trasteverina non è facile. Ma lo si può dedurre dall'affetto da cui è stato da tutti circondato; dalla schiera di numerosi padri di famiglia, che ferventi cristiani e integerrimi cittadini, piangono oggi la sua scomparsa; dalle numerose vocazioni sacerdotali e religiose (una trentina) che sotto la sua guida sono fiorite: notiamo fra i più appariscenti: l'Em.mo Cardinale Francesco Marmaggi, S. E. Mons. Alfredo Ottaviani, Assessore del S. Uffizio, Mons. Gaeta-Caselli, Mons. Pascoli, Rettore del Seminario Romano minore, Mons. Borboni, Mons. Rossi, il Padre Lappi, già Superiore Generale dei Minimi, il P. Berardi dei Benedettini, P. Ferappi dei Carmelitani e tanti e tanti altri. Ora Fr. Viviano in cielo risplende — come insegna la Sacra Scrittura — quale stella nell'eternità, avendo insegnato a molti. Egli non dimenticherà certamente quelli da lui tanto amati in terra e da essi così affettuosamente riamato, ma prega per loro, per le loro famiglie, per la loro felicità e perchè tutti, seguendo i suoi ammestramenti e consigli, siano di onore e di utilià alla Chiesa e alla Patria.

All'assistenziario «S. Girolamo della Carità»

La Promotrice di buone opere ha assunto, dall'inizio di quest'anno, tra i compiti del suo apostolato, l'attività spirituale dell'assistenziario per i liberati dal carcere, che ha la sua sede in S. Girolamo della Carità, ove, insieme, col ricordo del grande Dottore, spira il profumo delle virtù di S. Filippo Neri che, per trentatre anni vi ebbe dimora e che in quest'asilo di pace fu visitato da alcuni dei più grandi santi del suo tempo quali Carlo Borromeo, Camillo de Lellis, Felice da Cantalice.

Già numerose conferenze e trattenimenti di argomento religioso sono state tenute settimanalmente ai ricoverati nell'Assistenziario ed ora, in preparazione alla S. Pasqua hanno parlato il cappellano Monsignor Primo Vannutelli, il P. Quirino Santoloci d. S. P. e il prof. Antonio Urbani, svolgendo opportune riflessioni, ispirando negli animi degli ascoltatori pii sentimenti di bontà e di fede.

Ieri, Domenica in *Albis*, l'assistente ecclesiastico Mons. Greco, assistito dal Presidente, dal Segretario e da un eletto numero di soci della Promotrice, che, durante il S. Rito, hanno eseguito canti liturgici ed eucaristici, e dai Padri Filippini dell'annessa chiesa, ha celebrato la S. Messa di Comunione generale per l'adempimento del precetto pasquale, pronunciando, prima di distribuire l'Ostia santa alla quasi totalità degli assistiti, elevate parole d'incitamento a proseguire nella vita cristiana, a rinascere con Cristo Redentore.

Abbonatevi a

L'Osservatore Romano

QUOTIDIANO POLITICO RELIGIOSO

Per un anno Lire 70

Quilici (alla memoria), Ufficio storico della Regia Marina; *Classe di scienze fisiche, matematiche e naturali* prof. Giovanni Perez; *Classe di lettere:* Gino Rocca (alla memoria); P. Pasquale d'Elia, S. J.; *Classe delle arti:* S. E. Mons. Celso Costantini, conte Guido Chigi-Seracinelli.

A questi encomi solenni vanno aggiunti i premi accademici assegnati a molti studiosi fra cui: prof. Luigi Sanzo (alla memoria), Ugo Betti, Orio Vergani, gen. Augusto Agostini, gen. Mario Caracciolo, Alessandro Del Vita, Agostino Turla, prof. Luigi Parpagliolo.

Infine sono stati conferiti anche i premi del Ministero dell'educazione e delle fondazioni annesse alla R. Accademia d'Italia.

Non sono stati assegnati: il premio del Ministero dell'educazione per le scienze matematiche; il premio del Ministero dell'educazione per le scienze matematiche, riservato agli insegnanti dei Regi Istituti Nautici; il premio dell'Associazione Bancaria per un lavoro sul tema: «La disciplina del commercio con l'estero con particolare riguardo a quello delle divise»: il premio «Lorenzo Bigotti» per un lavoro tecnico-economico sulla navigazione interna; il premio «Piccinini» per un lavoro sulla «storia delle Università italiane»; il premio «Carpi» per la biologia. Il concorso per il premio «Alfonso Susca» sul tema: «La dinamica dei redditi nelle fasi del ciclo economico», è andato deserto.

La cerimonia principale dell'odierno Natale di Roma e festa del lavoro vede premiati anche quest'anno i più degni frutti del lavoro umano: i frutti dell'ingegno.

Del numeroso elenco dei premiati s'è sopra accennato ai nomi più ricordevoli e fra questi spicca quello di S. E. Monsignor Celso Costantini, degnissimo prelato ed illustre cultore delle discipline artistiche.

L'encomio solenne conferitogli dalla Reale Accademia d'Italia reca, invero, la seguente motivazione: «*per la sua nobilissima opera, assidua nel riportare nelle manifestazioni della religione cattolica un vivace sentimento d'arte. Le sue opere recenti su* Arte sacra e Novecentismo *e l'Arte cristiana nelle Missioni recano viva luce di pensiero sui problemi dei rapporti tra la tradizione e l'ambiente, tra i temi della modernità ed il sentimento del popolo*».

Ma ancora altri nomi vanno particolarmente indicati, all'attenzione del pubblico; e primo fra tutti quello del nobile scrittore fiorentino Bruno Cicognani, cui la Reale Accademia d'Italia ha voluto premiare l'arte «*fatta, nella sua bellezza, di umanità*».

Enrico Pea, altro degno scrittore toscano, è letterato di ferace ingegno «*di alta umanità, di ben viva lingua italiana*». *Il più recente suo libro è una delicata e spirituale sacra rappresentazione.*

Giuseppe Lugli, archeologo e storiografo conosciutissimo, ha ricevuto il degno riconoscimento «*per le sue notevoli pubblicazioni illustranti la storia monumentale dell'Urbe e in particolar modo per un suo ampio e documentato studio non ancora edito, ma presentato in completa preparazione di testo e di illustrazioni, sullo svolgimento delle tecniche murarie nelle costruzioni romane dai più antichi tempi repubblicani al basso impero*».

Il sen. prof. Perez, della R. università di Roma, ha visto premiato con encomio solenne il suo poderoso Trattato di patologia chirurgica la cui «*originalità sta nell'indirizzo unitario che ha guidato l'Autore nello svolgimento delle diverse parti, e che lo ha svincolato da ogni preoccupazione di indole clinica, consentendogli di compiere un'opera magistrale di carattere schiettamente scientifico*».

L'illustre sinologo gesuita, P. Pasquale d'Elia, ha pure ricevuto l'enconio solenne della R. Accademia d'Italia, con una motivazione la quale attesta che il dotto religioso «*con la sua edizione del* Mappamondo di Matteo Ricci, *mettendo a profitto con acume, penetrazione e perizia nuovi documenti europei e cinesi ha rivendicato all'Italia il primato negli studi di sinologia e rievocate le tracce luminose che il pensiero, la scienza e le arti d'Italia lasciarono sulla Cina del XVII secolo*».

Tra gli altri premiati poi si distingue Ugo Betti, nobilissimo scrittore e drammaturgo, la cui nota fondamentale è data da un senso d'umanità che nasce dal dolore: «*ma sempre oltre quell'amarezza — dice giustamente la motivazione — brilla il lume spirituale d'una speranza*».

Con particolare compiacimento, infine, si vedono premiati i nostri buoni amici Guido Bargellini ed Agostino Turla, cui la cato un trattato di chimica organica, del quale è apparsa di recente la seconda edizione a stampa. Questo trattato per la chiarezza della esposizione, per la razionale disposizione della materia, per la cura posta nell'aggiornamento dei dati, risultano di una nobile fatica didattica quotidianamente vissuta e di un assiduo ed ammirevole studio dei più moderni progressi compiuti dalla disciplina che è esposta, costituisce un apporto pregevole alla nostra letteratura scientifica. L'Accademia ha pertanto ritenuto di segnalare l'opera e l'autore con l'attribuzione di uno dei premi accademici».

«La statua di sale *di Agostino Turla è un libro che s'ispira direttamente, e non di rado con vigore e nitidezza, alla natura e agli uomini, è quindi, nelle pagine migliori, vivo e profondo. I contadini e la campagna del basso Bresciano sono rappresentati da uno che li conosce ed ama con commossa verità, anche se, a volte, il piacere di far letteratura guasti e mortifichi l'ispirazione e l'osservazione; una malinconica ma non disperata poesia aleggia su quella povera gente dalle poche gioie e dai molti triboli. C'è nel Turla una potenza, o virtù d'umanità, che, col raffinamento dell'arte, promette uno scrittore*».

«Santa Caterina infermiera»

Adriana Oddasso alla Cattedra Caterliniana

Per iniziativa della Cattedra Caterliniana, sabato, alla Minerva, si sono date convegno le numerose e reputatissime Scuole infermieristiche femminili di Roma, religiose e laiche, volontaristiche e professionali, tutte largamente e degnamente rappresentate, e particolarmente la Croce Rossa Italiana, il cui drappello di Crocerossine, era agli ordini di Donna Maria Cristina Giustiniani Bandini; la Scuola convitto professionale «Regina Elena» del Policlinico, con la direttrice V. Antonaglia e 2 alunne; la Scuola delle Domenicane di San Sisto Vecchio, con la Superiora Generale, le Domenicane infermiere ed insegnanti della Congregazione di Santa Caterina da Siena; le Infermiere della Congregazione delle Sorelle dei Poveri di Siena; le alunne della Scuola convitto professionale dell'Ospedale di San Giovanni, diretta dalle Suore della Misericordia; le alunne della Scuola convitto di San Giuseppe, della Scuola convitto di Santo Stefano Rotondo, dell'Ospedale di Santo Spirito, ecc. Erano presenti gli Eminentsisimi Cardinali Tedeschini e Cattani, e un folto gruppo di personalità ecclesiastiche e laiche tra le quali: S. E. Mons. Smit, il Maestro Generale dell'Ordine dei Predicatori; S. E. il Vice Governatore Manno in rappresentanza del Governatore di Roma; numerosi senatori, ufficiali generali e superiori; ed altre autorità.

L'eletta riunione era stata promossa dal Presidente della Cattedra caterinian.., professor Giovanni Carrara al fine di esaltare nella grande domenicana Caterina da Siena, la Santa più particolarmente vicina alle infermiere, per l'incomparabile esempio da essa dato anche in questo delicato settore della carità umana.

Il prof. Giovanni Carrara, con opportune parole ha chiuso il XV corso caterinano; ha illustrato lo scopo della riunione, resa così imponente e significativa dalle duecento infermiere intervenute a rappresentare le diverse e tutte ugualmente benemerite Scuole infermieristiche di Roma, ed infine presentava l'oratrice della cerimonia, dott. Adriana Oddasso.

La dott. Adriana Oddasso, dimostrando un pieno possesso degli scritti della grande scrittrice domenicana, si è subito addentrata nella disamina delle fonti scritturali dalle quali la Santa aveva tratto il fondamento della dottrina, che in forme così avvincenti e categoriche, promana da tutta la sua opera e particolarmente dal «*Dialogo della Divina Provvidenza*».

La dott. Oddasso ha saputo sottolineare con aderente genuina schietta convinzione tutti gli episodi caritativi che è venuta esponendo all'affollatissimo ed elettissimo pubblico, forse lietamente sorpreso e compiaciuto di poter constatare un esempio tanto persuasivo delle possibilità che si affacciano, nell'infinito mondo del bene e dell'apostolato, ai giovani, ai quali parrebbe dovessero più sorridere irresistibili i vani allettamenti mondani per contro virilmente contraddetti e sorpassati.

fessione di Terziari; assoluzione generale. Alle ore 10,30: Messa Pontificale celebrata da S. E. Mons. Ermenegildo Pasetto, Segretario della Sacra Congregazione dei Religiosi. Alle 18,30: Rosario, canto dei vespri, panegirico e benedizione eucaristica impartita dall'Em.mo Signor Cardinale Ermenegildo Pellegrinetti.

Per benigna concessione dei Sommi Pontefici dal mezzogiorno del 26 a tutto il giorno della festa si può lucrare l'indulgenza plenaria *toties quoties* applicabile anche ai defunti.

A S. ALFONSO ALL'ESQUILINO

Nel 75° anniversario del ritorno della Madonna del Perpetuo Soccorso sull'Esquilino, i Padri Redentoristi, custodi della vetusta e prodigiosa Immagine celebreranno solenni festeggiamenti in onore della Universale Mediatrice delle grazie divine.

Il programma delle sacre funzioni è il seguente: 25-26 aprile, alle ore 18.30: Rosario, predica, trina benedizione.

Domenica 27 aprile alle ore 7.30: Santa Messa della Comunione Generale celebrata da Sua Eccelleza Mons. Antonio M. Capettini, Vescovo di Eurea di Fenicia; ore 10.30: Pontificale solenne di Sua Eccellenza Mons. Nicola Giannattasio, Arcivescovo tit. di Pessinonte; ore 18.30: Rosario, discorso, benedizione impartita da Sua Eminenza il Cardinale Alessandro Verde, Arciprete della Basilica Liberiana.

A N. S. DI SION

Nella casa di N. S. di Sion (Via Garibaldi 28), Venerdì 25 corr. si terrà la consueta giornata di predicazione per le signore con il seguente orario:

Mattino S. Messa alle 8,30 seguita dalla conferenza di Mons. C. Bonaldi. Pomeriggio «Ora Santa» alle 16,15, predicata dal medesimo Monsignore.

MARTEDI' 22. — Ss. Sotero e Cajo, martiri. — *Esposizione del Ss.mo Sacramento*: S. Vitale. — *Esposizione dell'Immagine di Maria Ss.ma*: S. Maria del Rosario alla Minerva.

PENSIERO EUCARISTICO: «Non mi dite che siete peccatori, che avete troppe miserie e che perciò non osate accostarvi alla S. Comunione... Sarebbe come dirmi che siete troppo ammalati e che perciò non volete nè medico nè medicine» (S. Curato d'Ars). — PENSIERO MARIANO: «O Madre, che in questi giorni lagrimando vedi gli uomini intenti a ben altre voci, che non a quelle del tuo Gesù, alle voci delle vendette e delle cupidigie, che echeggiano poi nel rombo dei cannoni, nel rantolo delle vittime, nei gemiti di mille madri, nella desolazione del mondo, oh vieni e rapida soccorri un'altra volta pietosa e salvatrice» (Cardinale Maffi).

NOTIZIARIO SPORTIVO

Roma-Ambrosiana 3-0

Partita felice ieri allo Stadio ove tutti gli atleti giallo-rossi hanno giuocato con impegno e con entusiasmo piegando con un punteggio notevole, che avrebbe potuto essere anche più cospicuo, la squadra dell'Ambrosiana. Le tre porte sono state segnate da Amadei, Pantò, Krieziu.

Disturbi cronici

Il tratto caratteristico preoccupante dei disturbi dell'apparato urinario è che, non curati bene, essi diventano cronici e ritornano ad ogni cambiamento del tempo, spesso con aumentata intensità. Generalmente sono da incolpare i reni deboli o strapazzati.

Non aspettate che la vostra condizione diventi critica. Se ci tenete alla vostra salute, usate le Pillole Foster per i Reni, il buon diuretico, al primo segno di irregolarità dell'urina, disturbi notturni, dolori nei muscoli o giunture e di altri sintomi di debolezza renale. Ovunque: L. 7.—. Dep. Gen. C. Giongo, Milano (6/44) - Fabbricate in italia. - *Aut. Pref. Milano, N. 54227.*

Pillole **Foster** per i Reni

Sciatica - Artrite - Reumatismi

Metodo SARTORI — Cura anche a domicilio

CASA DI CURA "IMMACOLATA CONCEZIONE"

ROMA — Via Pompeo Magno, 14 — Telefono 35823 — ROMA

CAPPELLA IN CASA — A richiesta opuscolo gratis

87

1941

R

VATICAN

R 5409

20 MAY 1941

2

Registry Number } R 5409/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See) to

No. Mr. Nichols.

Dated 24th April, 1941

Received in Registry } 20th May, 1941

R : Vatican

General report of activities at the Vatican.

Refers to the re-broadcasting by Vichy of the Pope's Easter address and the Vatican's plain speaking about religious persecution and gratitude for the humanity shown to Catholics in Abyssinia. States that the Italians will bring pressure to bear on the Dalmatian and Croatian members of Yugoslav Legations (to the Quirinal and Vatican) but will be unsuccessful in influencing his own colleagues. Looks forward to future effective bombings of Italian communications.

Last Paper.

R 5786

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Mr Osborne deals with a number of different subjects in this letter, none of them requiring any action on our part.

I think the Vatican can be trusted to continue to recognize the Yugoslav Govt. and to withhold recognition from Croatia [Yes: see Berne tel No. 1124 of May 23, R 11] or any similar puppet State created at Yugoslavia's expense.

Re the question of Papal representation at the coming coronation ceremonies at Zagreb must be causing anxiety to the Pope.

We could of course explain to Mr Osborne that we cannot bomb the Brenner before the autumn, when there will be

(Action completed.) O.S. 3/6

(Index.) 8/5/41

Next Paper.

30174

20817 F.O.P.

R5653.

2A

be sufficient hours of darkness and reassure him generally that Italy's turn will come. But this would be more suitably conveyed by telegram, as we cannot be sure that the Italian authorities do not tamper with Vatican bags.

W R C Knight 22/5

Yes: we can't say this by bag.

SN
24/V.

2nd para

I rather think that Mr Osborne has been sent copies of some of this correspt in this Board. If not we ought to explain our viewpoint to him.

S of W. Dept - for th.
Mr Randall

S Nicholls
24/V.

We told him by telm on May 7 what we were doing in regard to pastoral visits.

W Randall
26/5

Two days after this letter was written the Vatican wireless ceased to speak plainly. I am preparing an analysis of the whole position. The effective Vatican wireless references to our treatment of prisoners, missions & internees have been frequent.

Alec Randall
26/V

/ Submitted diffl. tel. as regards bombing.

W.R.C.K 27/5

For the reasons given on the attached slip I fear we cannot send Mr Osborne telegraphic inform: on this subject.

P.D.
29/5

R 5409

Dear Dixon

I am afraid our cypher to Osborne is not sufficiently secure to take this tel. in complete safety.

Yrs

M Hankey

29/5

As suggested.

Mr Butler to see.

J.D.
29/5

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R5409/30/57

WLCK

Draft.

Telegram

Mr Kelly.
Berne No.

Cypher.

Dept[l] No. 1.

Mr. Bentinck
first

Cancel.

Please pass following figures to Mr Osborne.
Tel. No.

Your letter of April 24th to Mr Nicholls, last two sentences

Objectives in Northern Italy cannot well be bombed before October owing to short nights. You may rest assured that time will come for effective bombing of Italian objectives wherever situated.

R 5409

Encl 5

Rec'd May 16. MAY 19[illegible]

Vatican,

April 24th, 1941.

My dear Phil,

I think that the Pope spoke fairly strongly in his Easter Address, and I was very interested to hear that the full translation was immediately re-broadcast by Vichy. The Vatican Radio too has been speaking plainly about religious persecution.

yes.

I daresay you may think that the Vatican ask too much of us in the way of assistance for Catholic prisoners and internees, Missions, civilians in Abyssinia, etc., but at least they publicly express their gratitude and their appreciation of our goodwill and humanity. All this will count on the record for the future and I hope that we shall continue to do what we can to justify their faith in us. Certainly, I think they have every reason to be grateful to us and they often express their appreciation to me.

The grubby little house across the courtyard, in which we were all temporarily lodged when we first came here, is being entirely remodelled, replumbed, heated, etc., for the Yugoslavs. Meanwhile they remain in their Legation in Rome and are free to come and go. The Minister is a Dalmatian, from Ragusa, and I shall not be

surprised if the Italians do not attempt to induce members of the two Legations (who come) from Dalmatia and Croatia to bow to the fait accompli and abandon allegiance to the Yugoslav Government. But I am sure that they will have no success as regards my own colleagues and I have no reason to suppose that the others will be any less loyal. In fact I understand that they are on the point of leaving Italy. There has already been published one of the usual Swiss press lies, to the effect that the Vatican are initiating diplomatic relations with the new State of Croatia. I have telegraphed a denial.

We remain here under close supervision and visitors in consequence become rarer and rarer. I am glad that I am now to have Tittmann as an American colleague.

The latest Athens-Cairo-Rome bombardment warning created a slight flutter, but I suspect that the Germans will abstain. At least I am sure that the Italians and the Vatican will do their best to induce them to. What I don't understand is why we have not bombed the Brenner Pass or other vital points on the railway by which the German troops and material pass on their way to Sicily and Tripoli. Perhaps the time will come when we shall be able to do a little effective bombing in Italy.

Yours ever

D'Arcy

28

1941

R

VATICAN

7

R 5653

28 MAY 1941

Registry Number } R 5653/30/57.

FROM Apostolic Delegate (Conversation)

No.

Dated 24th May, 1941.

Received in Registry } 25th May, 1941

R: Vatican.

Vatican Foreign Policy.

The Apostolic Delegate handed to Mr. Eden attached memorandum. The position in Ethiopia was discussed. Mr. Eden was disturbed at the Pope's reception of the Duke of Spoleto and Mr. Pavelich. He considered the latter a regicide in intention if not in fact, who was deeply incriminated in the murder of King Alexander. Mr. Eden referred to the change of policy adopted by the Vatican radio and its distressing effect on Catholic opinion everywhere. The Apostolic Delegate expressed himself ignorant of the change and promised to do all he could in the matter.

Last Paper.

R 5409

References.

R 5165/44/57 (Radio)

in Southern Dept.

PRINTED (Print.) K.C.D.

Italy. Section 1. May 24

(How disposed of.)

Dipth. Holy See No. 12 May 24
tel. to ~~Berne~~ Berne
Mr Osborne to 69
No 695 of 29 May.

OFW Archbishop Godfrey from SS/S 6 June

(Minutes.)

Despatch to the Vatican

J 1526/1381/124/66

King
Cabinet
Dominions

See within - with Pte Sec Archbishop Godfrey 5 June

A summary of this despatch has been telegraphed to-day to Mr Osborne.
(No 695 to Berne, No. 69 to Holy See).

WRCK 29/5.

R 3/6.

Central Dept

Mr Rapsdell. AWR. 3/VI

(Action completed.)

De 6/8

(Index.)

8K 20/VI

Next Paper.

See R 5758/44/57.

R 5806

Circulated to the Cabinet by direction of
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

8

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

ITALY. May 24, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL. SECTION 1.

[R 5653/30/57] ARCHIVES Copy No. 8

Mr. Eden to Mr. Osborne (Holy See).

(No. 12.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 24, 1941.*

THE Apostolic Delegate came to see me yesterday. He left me the enclosed memorandum. So far as the position in Abyssinia was concerned I said that I would cause enquiries to be made, but I told the Delegate that I was much disturbed to read of His Holiness's reception of the Duke of Spoleto and M. Pavelich. I could not accept the description of M. Pavelich as a statesman, and was indeed astonished and pained that the Vatican should so consider him, even for a moment. In my view M. Pavelich was a regicide in intention if not in fact. I had a clear recollection of the proceedings at Geneva which followed King Alexander's murder, for which I myself had been *rapporteur*, and M. Pavelich was deeply incriminated and indeed, in all probability, the author of the plot for the King's assassination. It was incredible to me that His Holiness should receive such a man. The Apostolic Delegate was clearly unhappy at the position in which his memorandum had placed him, and explained that he had translated "chef d'état" as "statesman."

2. I then told the Delegate that I must take this opportunity to speak to him about the Vatican wireless. We had received reports which went to show that the Vatican had now changed its policy in respect of its broadcasts and had even given some undertaking not to mention Germany or to condemn German paganism. I felt sure that he would understand how distressed Catholic opinion throughout the world would be once it came to realise that this was the state of affairs. I gave Mgr. Godfrey a summary of the telegram we had sent to you on the subject. The Apostolic Delegate had not heard of this change in policy and undertook himself to telegraph and do what he could to support our representations.

I am, &c.
ANTHONY EDEN.

Enclosure.

Memorandum communicated by the Apostolic Delegate.

54 *Parkside, London, S.W.* 19,
May 22, 1941.

Entered separately - General

FOR the last few days the wireless transmitting station of the Apostolic Delegation in Abyssinia has been unable to function.

The Holy See knows well and appreciates the goodwill of the British authorities, but asks me if I can obtain from the military authorities any help in the restoration of the use of the facilities for wireless transmitting formerly enjoyed by the Delegate.

Its use, of course, was solely for humanitarian and religious purposes.

WILLIAM GODFREY.

May 23, 1941.

The Duke of Spoleto having asked for audience of the Pope, His Holiness received him on Saturday last, the 17th May, in the afternoon. This he did before there was any official mention of the Duke's accession to a throne of Croatia. M. Pavelich had also asked for audience, and the Pope admitted him as a Catholic, as the head of a State and of a Croatian Mission that was already in Rome.

M. Pavelich would therefore be received privately. In this the Holy See would not in the least be departing from its policy of neutrality and impartiality.

Audiences such as these could not be refused to a Duke of Royal Blood and to a statesman such as M. Pavelich. The Holy See has asked me to make it clear that these audiences are in no way connected with the relationship between Italy and Croatia. M. Pavelich was not received by the Cardinal Secretary of State.

Since the members of this mission, when about to leave Rome, had asked to be admitted to the Pope's presence, they likewise were admitted to pay their respects and to kiss the Pope's ring, without any formal audience or ceremonial.

I thought it well to bring this to the notice of His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in order to prevent misunderstanding and to forestall possible propaganda in favour of the Axis.

WILLIAM GODFREY.

R 5653/30/57

10

A.E.

R 5653
28 MAY 1941

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

24th May 1941.

Mr. Osborne,
Vatican.

No. 12..

(Mark Pattison)

K.C.D.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Sir,

The Apostolic Delegate came to see me yesterday. He left me the enclosed memorandum. So far as the position in Abyssinia was concerned I said that I would cause enquiries to be made, but I told the Delegate that I was much disturbed to read of His Holiness's reception of the Duke of Spoleto and M. Pavelich. I could not accept the description of M. Pavelich as a statesman and was indeed ~~astonished~~ explained that the Vatican should so consider him, even for a moment. In my view M. Pavelich was a regicide in intention if not in fact. I had a ~~strong~~ clear recollection of the proceedings at Geneva which followed King Alexander's murder, for which I myself had been Rapporteur, and M. Pavelich was ~~clearly~~ deeply incriminated and indeed, in all probability, the author of the plot for the King's assassination. The Apostolic Delegate was clearly unhappy at the position in which his memorandum had placed him and explained that he had translated "chef d'état" as "statesman".

It was incredible to me that His Holiness should receive such a man.

2. I then told the Delegate that I must take this opportunity to speak to him about the Vatican wireless. We had received reports which went to show that the Vatican had now changed its policy in respect of its broadcasts and had even given some undertaking not to mention Germany or to condemn German paganism. I felt

sure /

28 MAY 1941

sure that he would understand how distressed Catholic opinion throughout the world would be once it came to realise that this was the state of affairs. I gave Monsignor Godfrey a summary of the telegram we had sent to you on the subject. The Apostolic Delegate had not heard of this change in policy and undertook himself to telegraph and do what he could ~~in respect of~~ to support our representations.

P.L. May 27

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

12

Keep with file

A.E.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

24th May 1941.

Mr. Osborne,

Vatican.

Sir,

No.....

The Apostolic Delegate came to see me yesterday. He left me the enclosed memorandum. So far as the position in Abyssinia was concerned I said that I would cause enquiries to be made, but I told the Delegate that I was much disturbed to read of His Holiness's reception of the Duke of Spoleto and M. Pavelich. I could not accept the description of M. Pavelich as a statesman and was indeed astonished and pained that the Vatican should so consider him, even for a moment. In my view M. Pavelich was a regicide in intention if not in fact. I had a ~~strong~~ clear recollection of the proceedings at Geneva which followed King Alexander's murder, for which I myself had been Rapporteur, and M. Pavelich was ~~clearly~~ deeply incriminated and indeed, in all probability, the author of the plot for the King's assassination. The Apostolic Delegate was clearly unhappy at the position in which his memorandum had placed him and explained that he had translated "chef d'état" as "statesman".

K.C.D.

(with pruning)

It was incredible to me that His Holiness should receive such a man.

2. I then told the Delegate that I must take this opportunity to speak to him about the Vatican wireless. We had received reports which went to show that the Vatican had now changed its policy in respect of its broadcasts and had even given some undertaking not to mention Germany or to condemn German paganism. I felt

sure /

Speak to Sir D. Osborne about this telegram

R.C.B. 28/5

Off hereunto 28/5

Despatched 29/5

sure that he would understand how distressed Catholic opinion throughout the world would be once it came to realise that this was the state of affairs. I gave Monsignor Godfrey a summary of the telegram we had sent to you on the subject. The Apostolic Delegate had not heard of this change in policy and undertook himself to telegraph and do what he could ~~in respect of~~ to support our representations.

(Sd.) ANTHONY EDEN.

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S.W.19.

TELEPHONE:
WIMBLEDON 1410.

TELEGRAMS:
DELAPOST. LONDON.

May 23rd. 1941.

PRO MEM.

The Duke of Spoleto having asked for audience of the Pope, His Holiness received him on Saturday last May 17th. in the afternoon. This he did before there was any official mention of the Duke's accession to a throne of Croatia. M. Pavelich had also asked for audience and the Pope admitted him as a catholic, as the head of a State and of a Croatian Mission that was already in Rome. M. Pavelich would therefore be received privately. In this the Holy See would not in the least be departing from its policy of neutrality and impartiality.

Audiences such as these could not be refused to a Duke of Royal Blood and to a Statesman such as M. Pavelich. The Holy See has asked me to make it clear that these audiences are in no way connected with the relationship between Italy and Croatia. M. Pavelich was not received by the Cardinal Secretary of State.

Since the members of this Mission when about to leave Rome had asked to be admitted to the Pope's presence, they likewise were admitted to pay their respects and to kiss the Pope's ring, without any formal audience or ceremonial.

15

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S.W.19.

TELEPHONE:
WIMBLEDON 1410.

TELEGRAMS:
DELAPOST. LONDON.

I thought it well to bring this to the notice of H.M. Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in order to prevent misunderstanding and to forestall possible propaganda in favour of the Axis.

+ William Godfrey.

Archbishop of Cius
Apostolic Delegate.

H.M. Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs
Foreign Office
WHITEHALL.

5 X

Registry No. R3573/147/22

WRCK

Draft.

Telegram.

Mr Kelly.

Berne

No. 695

29/5/41

Cypher

(Distrib. B.)

3pm.

PD.
28/5

3 C

F. O., 29/5/41

, 1941.

Despatched M.

16

6 30 p

Please pass following figures to Mr. Osborne.

Tel. No. 69

(copy attached)

Your Tel. No. 95

[of May ~~13th~~ 19th, Pope's reception of Duke of Spoleto and Pavelic]

Apostolic Delegate

~~came to see me~~ on May 23rd ~~and left a memo~~. referred ~~referring~~ inter alia to Pope's reception of Duke of Spoleto and Pavelic, latter being referred to as a "statesman" ~~said~~ I was much disturbed to read of His Holiness' action and could not accept description of P. ~~as a "statesman"~~. In my view he was a regicide in intention if not in fact, ~~and I had a clear recollection of proceedings at Geneva following on Louis Alexandre's murder which~~ and ~~recreated~~

~~revealed P as deeply~~ and it
~~implicated~~. It was
incredible to me that His
Holiness should receive such
a man. Archbishop G.
was clearly unhappy.
As regards
~~The~~ ~~spoke about~~
the Vatican articles (my
copy attached
tel. No. 64), ~~he~~ we had re-
ceived reports which went ~~tendency~~ to
show that Vatican had
changed its policy and given
some undertaking not to
mention Germany or con-
demn German policy.
He would understand how
distressed Catholic opinion
throughout the world would
be when this was realized.
Apostolic Delegate had
not heard of this change
of policy and undertook
to telegraph himself in
support of our representations.
Despatch follows. P.D.
28/5

OUT FILE

COPY

(R 5653/30/57)

DISTRIBUTION B.

Telegram to Mr. Kelly (Berne)

D. Foreign Office. 29th May, 1941. 6.30 p.m.

Cypher.
No. 695.

Please pass following figures to Mr. Osborne.

Telegram No. 69.

Your telegram No. 95 (of 19th May, Pope's reception of Duke of Spoleto and Pavelic).

Apostolic Delegate on 23rd May referred inter alia to Pope's reception of Duke of Spoleto and Pavelic, latter being referred to as a "statesman". I said I was much disturbed to read of His Holiness' action and could not accept description of P. In my view he was a regicide in intention if not in fact, and it was incredible to me that His Holiness should receive such a man. Archbishop G. was clearly unhappy.

2. As regards Vatican wireless (my telegram No. 64), we had received reports which went to show that Vatican had changed its policy and given some undertaking not to mention Germany or condemn German paganism. He would understand how distressed Catholic opinion throughout the world would be when this was realized. Apostolic Delegate had not heard of this change of policy and undertook to telegraph himself in support of our representations.

Despatch follows.

R 5653/30/57

57

19

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

TELEPHONE:
WIMBLEDON 1410.

TELEGRAMS:
DELAPOST, LONDON.

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S.W.19.

INDEXED

June 5th. 1941.

Sir,

I am grateful for your letter of June 2nd. concerning the Duke of Aosta. I have made known to the Holy See the decision of H. M. Government.

I take this opportunity of correcting the text of the note which I left with you on May 21st. Unfortunately there was an error in the first telegraphic transmission now, and this became known to me through a subsequent telegram. I enclose the amended text, which, I think, makes matters quite clear.

I have the honour to be,

Yours sincerely
+ William Godfrey.
Archbishop of Lipsus

The Rt. Hon.
H.M. Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs
Foreign Office
Whitehall.

20

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

54, PARKSIDE,
LONDON, S.W.19.

TELEPHONE:
WIMBLEDON 1410.

TELEGRAMS:
DELAPOST. LONDON.

INDEXED

June 5th. 1941.

R 5653/30/57

Amended text of note of May 21st. 1941.

The Duke of Spoleto having asked audience of the Pope His Holiness received him on Saturday last May 17th. in the afternoon. This he did before there was any o fficial mention of the Duke's accession to a throne in Croatia. M. Pavelich had also asked for audience and the Pope received him simply as a Catholic, not as the head of a State and head of the Croatian Mission that was in Rome at that time. M. Pavelich was therefore received privately. In this the Holy See would not in the least be departing from its policy of neutrality and impartiality.

Audiences such as these could not be refused to a Duke of the Royal Blood, nor would it be easy for the Pope to refuse to see M. Pavelich. The Holy See has asked me to make it clear that these audiences are in no way connected with the relationships between Italy and Croatia. M. Pavelich was not received by the Cardinal Secretary of State.

Why not-?

The members of the Croatian Mission when about to leave Rome had asked to be received . They likewise were admitted to pay their respects and to kiss the Pope's ring without any formal audience or ceremonial.

+ William Godfrey
Archbishop of Liris.

The Rt. Hon.
H. M. Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs

1121

Enter

OUT FILE 6th June, 1941.

I write to thank you for your letter of June 5th, in which you enclosed an amended copy of the note which you left with me on May 21s about the Pope's reception of the Duke of Spoleto and Monsieur Pavelich.

(Sd.) ANTHONY EDEN.

The Most Reverend
The Archbishop Godfrey.

28A-

22

R

1941

YUGOSLAVIA. VATICAN

R 5806

3 JUN 1941

Registry Number R 5806/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM Viscount Halifax, (Washington).

No. 67 SAVING.

Dated 16th May, 1941.

Received in Registry 3rd June, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of Monsignor Bernardini towards the outcome of the War.

Transmits a report from Rome of 14th May giving the view of Monsignor Bernardini, Papal Nuncio at Berne that Britain cannot win the war and that the present persecution of the Catholic Church by Germany will soon cease.

Last Paper.

R5653

References.

See C1168/324/18
C 5011 / 1693 / 62 / 1940

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Tels. Berne
No 744 5th June
and 747 5th June

Tel/Berne 744
Holy See 73.

(Action completed.) 0 S. 17/6

(Index.) 25/6/7

Next Paper.

R 5844

(*Minutes.*)

This pestilential Nuncio is an old "friend" – please see C 1168/324/18 and C 5011/1693/62 (1940). His peculiar view that Nazi persecution is 'good' for the Church is most certainly not shared by the Pope, and can hardly be "typical of the Vatican at present!"

We might repeat this to Berne, ref. C1168 and ask them to repeat it to Mrs Osborne, for obs. in each case. Off. tel. herewith.

CA. 5/6 W.R.C.Knight 4/6.

Central dept
Mr Rapp-Hall (a.a.). AWR. 11/VI

After discussion with Communications Dept re cyphers, and with the N. American Dept (who consulted Mr Bertinek) about repeating FIXIT telegrams,

telegrams. I submit two separate drafts in which the report has been paraphrased to some extent and a warning added about not discussing it with U.S. colleagues.

W.R.C. Knight
5/6.

JN
5/6.

R

R 5806

3 JUN 1941

[EN CLAIR].

SPECIAL (FIXIT.)

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Viscount Halifax
No. 67 SAVING.
16th May, 1941.

D. (BY BAG). 16th May, 1941.
R. 10.55 a.m. 3rd June, 1941.

rrrrrrrr

FIXIT.

Report from Rome dated May 14th records a conversation with Monsignor Bernardini, Papal Nuncio at Berne, who holds the view that Great Britain cannot win even with American help and advises a compromise peace. He admits that the Nazis are persecuting the Catholic Church but thinks that such persecution is good for the Church and will in any case soon cease. This attitude is said to be typical of the Vatican at present.

JUN
1941
F.O. REGISTRY

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R5806/30/57

WRCK

Draft.

Telegram.

Mr. Kelly

Berne ✓

No. 744
June 5

(Cypher)

K/IND IV.
1935

Dept. Secret

9.45 p.m.

OUT FILE

✓ 6.6.41
✓ 10.30 A.M.

25

Your Cat No. 312.

Following para. con-
tains sense
resume of secret
report from Rome dated
May 14th and received
by bag from Washington.

Recent conversations
with Papal Nuncios at
Berne revealed that
he holds view that Great
Britain cannot win even
with American help and
that he
advocates peace by compro-
mise. While admitting
that Catholic Church is
being persecuted by Nazis
he thinks that such per-
secution is good for her
and

and that in any case it will soon cease. This is alleged to be typical of present Vatican attitude.

I ~~should be glad~~ of your comments. Can ~~should~~ in no circumstances discuss matters ~~with your U.S. colleague~~ foregoing The ~~I~~ is being repeated to Mr. Osborne by my tel. No. 746 to you.

RN
5/6.

You should in no circumstances discuss above matter with your U.S. colleagues.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

27

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

(R 5806/30/57) DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET).

[Cypher]. FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE.

No. 744.
5th June, 1941. D. 10.30 p.m. 6th June, 1941.

VVVVVVV

Your telegram No.312.

Following paragraph contains sense of secret report from Rome dated May 14th and received by bag from Washington.

Recent conversation with Papal Nuncio at Berne revealed that he holds view that Great Britain cannot win even with American help and that he advocates peace by compromise. While admitting that Catholic Church is being persecuted by Nazis he thinks that such persecution is good for her and that in any case it will soon cease. This is alleged to be typical of present Vatican attitude.

You should in no circumstances discuss above report with your United States colleague.

The foregoing is being repeated to Mr.Osborne by my telegram No.747 to you.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R5306/30/57

WRCK

Draft.

Telegram. INDIV

Mr. Kelly

Berne

No. 747

June 5

(Cyphers)

K 1935 | Dated 9th with Mr.

Dept Secret

OUT FILE

6.6.41
10/30 pm

(B) 286

Please pass following
telegram to Mr. Osborne.

No Tel. No. 73 begins
para. contains
Following for secret report dated
from Rome
May 14th and received
by bag from Washington.

N.P. Regent conversation with
Papal Nuncio at
Berne ~~has expressed in~~
~~connection~~ revealed that
he holds view that Great-
Britain cannot win even
with American help and
that he
advocates ~~separate~~ peace
by compromise. While ad-
mitting that Catholic
Church is being persecuted

by

9-45 pm

by ~~the~~ Nazis he thinks that such persecution is good for her and that in any case it will soon cease. This is alleged to be typical of present Vatican attitude.

I should be glad of your comments. You should in no circumstances discuss ~~above~~ upon with your U.S. colleague.

Similar telegram is being sent to H.M. Minister at Berne

IN
5/6.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

(R 5806/30/57) OUTWARD TELEGRAM.

[Cypher]. DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET).

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE.

No. 747.
5th June, 1941. D. 10.30 p.m. 6th June, 1941.

VVVVVVVVV

Please pass following figures to Mr. Osborne as telegram No. 73. [Begins].

Following paragraph contains sense of secret report from Rome dated May 14th and received by bag from Washington.

Recent conversation with Papal Nuncio at Berne revealed that he holdsview that Great Britain cannot win even with American help and that he advocates peace by compromise. While admitting that Catholic Church is being persecuted by Nazis he thinks that such persecution is good for her and that in any case it will soon cease. This is alleged to be typical of present Vatican attitude.

I should be glad of your comments. You should in no circumstances discuss above report with your United States colleague.

Similar telegram is being sent to His Majesty's Minister at Berne.

29.

R

1941

VATICAN

31

R 5844
5 JUN 1941

Registry Number } R 5844/30/57

FROM Extract from New York Times.

No.

Dated 20th May, 1941.

Received in Registry } 5th June, 1941

R : Vatican

The Pope withholds Recognition of Croatia.

Extract from the New York Times of 20th May, 1941, giving a message from its Rome correspondent quoting from the Osservatore Romano to the effect that the Pope has refused to recognise the new Croat Kingdom and that his reception of the Duke of Spoleto and Dr. Pavelitch had no political or official character.

Last Paper.

R5806.

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

See within —

The real point, the reception by the Pope of a notorious terrorist and even murderer, is not mentioned at all, even by the Rome correspondent of the "New York Times", who finds it easy enough to justify the reception of the "Catholic Leader of a truly Catholic people"! Fortunately it was not the "Osservatore Romano" which so described Pavelič.

The Vatican clearly have the whole episode on their conscience, and the "Osservatore" has been at pains to make the best of a bad business.

C.A.C.Knight 5/6

Rowe 6/6.
Central Dept.

They seem very keen to have it on their conscience.

JN 6/6.

(*Action completed.*) DC 16/6

(*Index.*) DF 29/7

Next Paper.

R5850

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Mr. Knight

You may be interested in this. Please return.

C V

R 5844
5 JUN 1941

37

Andy Rankin 2/VI

May we enter?

WHC 4/6

Yes tvsR.

POPE WITHOLDS RECOGNITION OF CROATIA.

New York Times, 20.5.41., prints the following message from its Rome correspondent: "The Osservatore Romano in three brief official notices has made it clear to the world that Pope Pius XII has not recognized the new Croat Kingdom and only granted to its representatives the minimum of courtesy that the occasion demanded. He did receive the Duke of Spoleto, Dr. Ante Pavelitch and a Croat delegation, but in each case the reception was so arranged that it was deprived of any political or official character.

"First came the request of the Duke of Spoleto to be received. The Pope naturally would not refuse such a request, but he simply told the Duke to come and see him at 7 o'clock on Saturday evening. Had he waited until yesterday the Pope would have been receiving the King of Croatia and by that gesture given official recognition to the new kingdom.

"Just to make that clear, the Osservatore Romano today publishes this note:

'The Supreme Pontiff, Pius XII, granting the filial desire, received in private capacity His Royal Highness Prince Aimone of Savoy-Aosta, Duke of Spoleto. The audience took place on Saturday at 7 o'clock. The Holy Father received the august visitor in his private library, talking with him with paternal cordiality for more than forty minutes.'

"Then came the even more delicate problem of what to do about Dr. Pavelitch, who also made a formal request in advance to be received by the Pope along with the whole Croat delegation. There again, to accede to the request would have been to recognize the new kingdom. On the other hand, as they appeared in the role of Catholic leaders of a truly Catholic people, the Pope did not feel he should disappoint them. The problem was solved by dividing the delegation into two parts.

"First Dr. Pavelitch was received alone - only a stenographer accompanied him - not as the head of the Croat Government but simply as Dr. Ante Pavelitch, a Catholic individual. This was made quite clear by the Osservatore Romano today in a second note, which said:

'His Holiness received Dr. Ante Pavelitch, who had made a devoted request, in a strictly private audience yesterday evening at 6 o'clock.'

"Finally came the turn of the whole Croat delegation. Of them, the Osservatore Romano simply says:

'The Holy Father deigned to admit to his august presence a group of Croat Catholics, accompanied by His Excellency, Mgr. Francis Salis-Sevis, Titular Bishop of Corico, Auxiliary of Zagreb. His Holiness gave his hand to each of those present to be kissed, comforting them with the Apostolic Blessing.'

"In other words, the delegation was received without special honors, just like any group of Catholic pilgrims. The Pope did not say a word to any of them, except to give his blessing."

D I

NORWAY.

CLOSED ZONES.

(1) Stockholms-Tidningen, 29.5.41, says that a number of closed military areas, which may not be entered, have been established along the Norwegian coast. The control of traffic within these coastal zones has been intensified, which is causing general concern.

CORPORATIVE STATE FIASCO.

(2) Dagens Nyheter, Stockholm, 29.5.41, announces that N.S. plans for the summoning of a new Riksting during the summer have apparently been abandoned. The Riksting was to have assumed the functions of the Storting.

The opposition in the various industrial organisations is so strong that it has proved impossible to form a complete corporative organisation in the course of a few months. It is known that N.S. under Quisling's personal direction planned the organisation of a so-called industrial assembly, the Naeringsting, which would join with the cultural assembly (Kulturting) to elect representatives to the Riksting.

ECONOMIC FUTURE OF SMALL POWERS.

(3) Aftenposten, Oslo, 28.5.41. Senator Allwoerden, who represents Hamburg shipping interests, remarked in an address at the annual meeting of the German Chamber of Commerce in Oslo that small national economic units numbering 3 or 4 millions will be of no importance in the great economic space which can now be seen to be forming. Such small national economic units will be left behind in forthcoming developments, while a great block of 350 to 400 million cannot be pushed aside by the rest of the world.

TEXTILE FACTORIES TO CLOSE

(4) Aftenposten, Oslo, 28.5.41. The authorities have ordered the closing of all textile factories between 23rd June and 16th August, and of clothing factories between 7th July and 16th August. 20,000 operatives are affected. The usual holiday period must be taken during the stoppage, and workers will receive the usual unemployment relief.

LICENCES TO SELL THREAD.

(5) Aftenposten, Oslo, 28.5.41. The Supply Department has ordered all importers of sewing threads or of materials for the manufacture of the same, consisting solely or partly of cotton or cellulose wool, to submit the invoices immediately for control. The order includes thread manufacturers who purchase raw material from Norwegian sellers. As from 1st June the Supply Department prohibits manufacturers, importers or import agents from selling or otherwise disposing of sewing thread without licence.

K 5844/30/57 Reg with pp. 34

ENB 31.5.41.
22.30 G.M.T.

INDEXED

Mr. Alexander continued: "We are passing through very crucial months in the war for freedom. Once more in Crete our Imperial troops and Greek regiments have fought most gallantly without any adequate air fighter protection against a tremendously powerful enemy who was reinforced and supplied by an air amada working from close bases.

"In these circumstances it has fallen to the lot of the Royal Navy also with very little air protection to protect the Crete garrison and to put in reinforcements under almost continuous dive-bombing attacks.

"The losses of ships and the damage to ships (the Minister continued) has been very grievous and severe but their service has been given loyally and at once in the spirit that the navy could not let the army down."

Referring to American aid Mr. Alexander said that President Roosevelt's recent declaration backed by a speech which he believed clearly indicated that Hitler will not be allowed to win was of the greatest importance.

Great strides, he added were being made in supplies of materials from the U.S.A. and other large quantities were coming in from the Dominions.

8. Many Croats arrived in Rome twelve days ago. They came, alas, on Quisling business. They came headed by Ante Pavelić, the regicide - Ante Pavelić, who had been bought by Hitler - Ante Pavelić, who had betrayed Croatia to the Axis - Ante Pavelić who six years ago had planned the murder of King Alexander - Ante Pavelić came to Rome with his New Order delegation - came to Rome, as you know, to offer the New Order Crown of Croatia to the Royal House of Savoy. And, as you know, the Duke of Spoleto accepted; and, as you also know, he was camouflaged as Tomislav II, New Order King of Croatia.

These three, the camouflaged New Order King, the Quisling regicide, and the Croat delegation, naturally wished to see the Pope before they went back to their New Order land.

They wished to see the Pope for various reasons, public and private. No doubt they hoped for the Vatican's official recognition of their New Order Kingdom. No doubt they hoped for an official blessing. No doubt they wished to have their Quisling business camouflaged as true South Slav national business. But they were disappointed.

The Holy Father is a wise and a shrewd man. The Holy Father did not refuse to see the sons of the Church. But he did refuse to recognise officially the New Order Croatia, its camouflaged King, and or its Quislings.

The New Order Crown of Croatia was offered on May 18th. The requests for audiences were made in advance.

And the Pope granted them. But as the OSSERVATORE ROMANO says about the first audience: "The Supreme Pontiff, Pius XII, granting the filial desire, received in private capacity His Royal Highness Prince Aimone of Savoy-Aosta, Duke of Spoleto. The audience took place on Saturday (May 17) at 7 o'clock. The Holy Father received the august visitor in his private library, talking with him with paternal cordiality for more than 40 minutes."

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WLCK

EUROPEAN NEWS BULLETIN
SATURDAY, 31st MAY, 1941.
ITALIAN: 22.30 - 22.45 G.M.T.

ORDER OF ITEMS:

1. Evening Iraq (repeat from earlier bulletin)
2. Evening Crete (repeat from earlier bulletin)
3. Freyburg (repeat from earlier bulletin)
4. R.A.F. Communique (repeat from earlier bulletin)
5. Eastern Week
6. Prisoners' List
7. Alexander
8. Three Requests of the Pope

1. EVENING IRAQ

2. EVENING CRETE

3. FREYBURG

4. R.A.F. COMMUNIQUE

5. The Royal Air Force last week shot down more than four Axis planes in the Middle East for each machine it lost itself.

The heaviest German losses were over Crete, although the British bombers were handicapped by the lack of island bases and of substantial fighter support. In the week ending at dusk on Thursday 53 German planes were destroyed in Crete for certain. This figure is far smaller than the actual number destroyed or damaged, precise observation of which was impossible in the heat of the battle. Severe punishment was inflicted on the Junkers 52 troop carriers, some of which were shot down in the air fully-laden with troops.

In the same week British bombers made five raids on Benghazi harbour in North Africa. Repeated attacks were made on the mole, and heavy damage was done to warehouses and railway sidings. Attacks on enemy shipping were extended to the Tunisian harbour of Sfax, where enemy merchant vessels were known to be sheltering.

At the other end of the Eastern front, the Royal Air Force was active over Iraq, Syria and the Dodecanese. Three raids were on the Iraqi aerodrome of Mosul, two on the Aleppo aerodrome in Syria (when direct hits were secured on the hangars) and two on an aerodrome in the island of Scarpanto.

In Abyssinia the Royal Air Force had the support of the South African Air Force and Free French Units in attacks on enemy positions at Gondar and at Alge.

In all these operations - ranging over Crete, the Mediterranean, Africa, Iraq and Syria - 65 Axis planes were shot down for certain. Britain's losses were 14 machines - a proportion of more than 4 to 1 in Britain's favour.

6. PRISONERS'LIST

7. In a speech at Edinburgh Mr. Alexander the First Lord of the Admiralty pointed out that today was the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Jutland, after which encounter the German High Sea Fleet never came out again until it sailed into the Firth of Forth to surrender.

The action just fought (he added) which had ended in the destruction of the BISMARCK might be regarded as an augery of a similar force of events.

ENB 31.5.41.
22.30 G.M.T.

Next about the second audience, the same paper states: "His Holiness received Dr. Ante Pavelić, who had made a devoted request, in a strictly private audience yesterday evening (19th May) at 6 o'clock."

Then came the third audience of the whole Croat delegation, and again in the words of the OSSERVATORE ROMANO: "The Holy Father designed to admit to his august presence a group of Croat Catholics, accompanied by His Excellency Mgr. Francis Sális-Sevis, Titular Bishop of Corico, Auxiliary of Zagreb. His Holiness gave his hand to each of those present to be kissed, comforting them with the Apostolic Blessing."

In once sense all of them they got what they wanted, they were received by His Holiness in audience; but they did not get any official recognition.

The Pope took care to receive the Duke of Spoleto before he was king designate of Croatia. He received Ante Pavelic alone, as a private individual, not as a representative of the Croat people or of any New Order Kingdom.

And the Pope kept his own counsel. And the New Order State of Croatia received no official papal blessing.

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 5850

5 JUN 1941

Registry Number R 5850/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See) to Mr. Nichols
No.

Dated 15th May, 1941

Received in Registry 5th June, 1941

R: Vatican

General Report on activities at the Vatican. Refers to the muzzling of the Vatican Radio and indicates still further pressure which may result in the complete closing down of the Radio, the cutting off of cypher communication via Berne between diplomats and their governments and even their eviction from the Vatican City. Indicates what action he will takein such an eventuality. Commends ~~day~~ the work of Mr. Tittman and reiterates the Vatican's pleasure at our treatment of civilians prisoners and ecclesiastics.

Last Paper.
R 5844/4

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)
D/F. Mr Osborne (Vatican) from Mr Nichols file 44
D/F. Mr Butler (Washington) from Mr Nichols
16 file.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 19/6 DCH9	20/7

Next Paper.
R 5886

(Minutes.)

See within — Mr Osborne, Holy See to Mr Nichols of July 3rd & July 9th.

This letter increases still more our sympathy with Mr Osborne in his present most trying positions. Incidentally, it was no doubt to avoid (1) (4) and (3), inter alia, that the Vatican recently succumbed to Axis pressure in the matter of broadcast criticism of Germany.

Mr Tittman's presence is the one bright spot in Mr. O.'s existence and he is no doubt doing excellent work not only for his own country but also for us and the common cause.

Ref: Letter to Chancery, Washington, asking them to pass on Mr O.'s appreciation to the State Dept.

W.R. Knight 7/6

39

Please see letter to Mr. Nevile Butler and reply to Mr. Osborne.

N. Mackie Sept 17/6

June 11th, 1941. L.N.

Encl.
40

Rec'd June 3,

VATICAN,
May 15th, 1941.

R 5850

5 JUN 1941

My dear Phil,

Thankyou so much for your letter of April 21st.

I have reported by telegram the successful war of nerves on the Vatican which resulted in the muzzling of the Vatican Radio. It is very sad and not very creditable to the Holy See. I think further pressure is quite likely, in order to obtain: (1) the complete closing-down of the Radio; (2) the cutting-off of cypher communication by the diplomats here with their Governments via Berne; and (3) even the eviction from the Vatican City of those diplomats. In the case of (2), and (3) I think that the Vatican would put up a fight, but I am not at all sure how much of a fight. In the case of (3) I should insist on carrying out my instructions to remain in contact with the Pope until I was turned out, and, if I failed, come home. However, I do not think that this is likely, at any rate in the immediate future. In the case of (2), I should protest to the utmost, but should stay here and carry on as best I could unless or until the position became patently absurd or undignified.

Tittmann is doing excellently here and I am contin-

ally more delighted with his appointment and more convinced of the importance of having an American representative at the Vatican. And that importance will increase as they get to know him better. He could not have done better than he has in making the influence of his country felt and in making clear what his country stands for in the present world situation. And that is of vital importance here and now. If there is a chance of saying anything to that effect at Washington, please do. I had no idea how damned good he was at his job as a diplomat. Did you know (you knew him personally here, didn't you?) that he had been shot to pieces in the last war in single combat against five German planes in France? He brought down two of them.

I seem to be perpetually busy over a lot of little matters and the complicated process of cyphering and decyphering takes a lot of time and gives me headaches in my eyes. Each word cyphered or decyphered now involves a triple process.

The Vatican are very pleased with our treatment of civilians, prisoners and ecclesiastics, as indeed they should be, and it will all count in the end.

They seem no longer to have any news at the Secretariat of State, but I suppose that that is comprehensible

since most European news now derives from Hitler's decisions and these he does not impart to the Holy See.

Which reminds me that I heard last night from the B.B.C. that Mr Bevin says he thinks Hitler knew of Hess's flight. The same, I hear, is being said in Rome, but, I should suspect, only to explain away a disagreeable shock.

I have been here nearly a year now. I feel as if I were being sucked slowly further and further up a continually darkening and narrowing tunnel. I suppose that is the natural reaction to confinement and withdrawal from circulation. That sounds as if I were disliking it very much, which is not at all true. The darkening tunnel feeling is only, I think, the result of the now almost complete severance from outside Rome and friends in Rome. The only thing that matters a damn is the war news. And I still see diplomatic friends, both here and from outside.

I have recently had a visit from Marguerite, whom I hadn't seen for a long time. She was looking much better and seemed in quite good spirits - on the surface, at any rate. She told me she had had a very nice letter from Phyllis. Will you tell Phyllis that I have sent the shove-halfpenny board she gave me to the Prisoners of

War Camp where I am told its arrival was enthusiastically welcomed.

I can't remember if I asked you to send me some more 2½d stamps. In any case, will you please.

Yours ever

D'Arcy

P.S. The reports of the air-raids, particularly on London, make me sick with anger & shame — at being untouched. I hope you missed the last one, which seems the worst of all? What completely baffles me is that, after such raids, Parliament meets, the 'Times' appears, life appears to go on in the ordinary way. I think it a the most magnificent exhibition of ~~[illegible]~~ mass courage there has ever been.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R 5850/30/57

P.N.

Draft

Mr. Osborne,
Vatican.

From Mr. Nichols.

OUT FILE

14 June 1941

My dear D'Arcy,

Thank you for your letter of May 15th. There have been a lot of developments on the subject of the mizzling of the Vatican radio since you wrote which have been dealt with by telegram and I not think there is anything I need say further on the matter at the moment. There does not appear to have been any further pressure designed to cut off your cypher communications or to evict you from the Vatican City and I hope there will be none. If there should be any signs you will of course let us know at once. You should of course insist on carrying out your instructions to remain in contact with the Pope as long as possible.

Incidentally, will the Pope be going to Castel Gandolfo this summer and, if so, what arrangements are being made for diplomats to keep in contact with him? Wouldn't it make a nice change if you could go out and live by the lake with him?

I am delighted to hear that Harold Tittmann is doing so well and that you are very pleased to have him. I knew him well and have always had the very highest opinion of him. ~~and know that he had been shot to pieces in the last war while fighting the Huns in the air.~~ I have written to Nevile Butler sending him an extract from your letter and asking him to say a word to

the...

the State Department to the effect that we are delighted at the appointment and that we consider it most important that the Vatican should know where the United States stands, and what it stands for, at this juncture. I hope, incidentally, this will do Harold Tittmann a good turn.

To turn to your own position, you have now been ~~inured~~ in the Vatican for over a year and we should all be very glad to hear that you still feel physically pretty fit. Are you never allowed outside to visit friends? I know friends still come to see you, but can you go out to see them? And can you get enough exercise inside the Vatican, or does His Holiness occupy the gardens for all the best hours of the day? Is there anything we can do to alleviate your lot in any way, e.g. have you sufficient books? But I gather that you have not got very much time to read, being so largely occupied by ensuring that the Pope gets the B.B.C. news. Surely, there must be someone in the Vatican whose job it is to take this down? I do not feel that it is really right that H.M. Minister should spend so much time doing ~~it~~, this job though I absolutely agree that the Pope must have this news.

To turn to your daily wants, I have been unable to obtain 1000 Balkan Sobranje cigarettes and am ordering 1000 Balkan Bayard instead and will let you know when they actually go off. There is by way of being a shortage of cigarettes in this country now, due largely, it would seem, to the increased consumption by

women/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN TH

women. I can no longer get my own Cyprus cigarettes and have gone back to Sullivan and ~~Pearl~~ Powells. These are very good cigarettes and if you do not like Balkan Bayard, let me know and I will send you out some Sullivans.

PN
13/6

No time to add to this as I had hoped - as I'm told the bag is going now -

All good wishes
yours.
(sd) Phil N.

OUT FILE

47

(R 5850/30/57).

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
14th June, 1941.

My dear D'Arcy,

Thank you for your letter of the 15th May. There have been a lot of developments on the subject of the muzzling of the Vatican radio since you wrote which have been dealt with by telegram and I do not think there is anything I need say further on the matter at the moment. There does not appear to have been any further pressure designed to cut off your cypher communications or to evict you from the Vatican City and I hope there will be none. If there should be any signs you will of course let us know at once. You should of course insist on carrying out your instructions to remain in contact with the Pope as long as possible.

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To turn to your daily wants, I have been unable to obtain 1000 Balkan Sobranje cigarettes and am ordering 1000 Balkan Bayard instead and will let you know when they actually go off. There is by way of being a shortage of cigarettes

/ in

F. D'A. G. Osborne, Esq., C.M.G.
Vatican.

in this country now, due largely, it would seem, to the increased consumption by women. I can no longer get my own Cyprus cigarettes and have gone back to Sullivan and Powells. These are very good cigarettes and if you do not like Balkan Bayard let me know and I will send you out some Sullivans.

No time to add to this as I had hoped — as I'm told the bag is going now.

All good wishes,

Yours,

(s) Phil N.

Registry
No.
R 5850/30/57

P.N.

Draft.

Mr. Butler,
Washington.

From Mr. Nichols.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

N. Nichols FEC 18/6
Dept.

49

OUT FILE

14 June 1941

My dear Nevile,

Please refer to our telegrams to Washington Nos. 482 and 483 of January last and Washington telegram No. 645 of February 10th, dealing with the subject of the appointment of a United States representative at the Vatican.

2. In the event Harold Tittmann was appointed to the Vatican, and I think you would like to see the following extract from a letter I have received from D'Arcy Osborne, dated May 15th:-

"Tittman is doing excellently here and I "am continually more delighted with his appoint-"ment and more convinced of the importance of "having an American representative at the Vatican "And that importance will increase as they get to "know him better. He could not have done better "than he has in making the influence of his "country felt and in making clear what his country "stands for in the present world situation. And "that is of vital importance here and now. If "there is a chance of saying anything to that "effect at Washington, please do. I had no idea "how damned good he was at his job as a diplomat."

It does not surprise me that D'Arcy has paid this tribute to Harold Tittmann. I knew the latter very well in Rome and he is absolutely first-class, and the U.S. could not have made a better choice from ~~our~~ their and ~~their~~ our own points of view. I think it would be most useful if a word could be put in at

the...

the State Department in the sense suggested by D'Arcy, namely that our Minister reports that the appointment has proved most useful and that Tittmann is doing his job extremely well. I am quite sure it is of ~~first class~~ great importance that the Vatican should realise where the U.S. stands and what it stands for at this juncture.

IN-
11 26

All good wishes to you

Yours ever
Sd Philip Nichols.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

51

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

14th June, 1941.

(R 5850/30/57)

My dear Nevile,

Please refer to our telegrams to Washington Nos 482 and 483 of January last and Washington telegram No. 645 of the 10th February, dealing with the subject of the appointment of a United States representative at the Vatican.

2. In the event Harold Tittmann was appointed to the Vatican, and I think you would like to see the following extract from a letter I have received from D'Arcy Osborne, dated the 15th May:-

"Tittman is doing excellently here and I am continually "more delighted with his appointment and more convinced "of the importance of having an American representative "at the Vatican. And that importance will increase as they "get to know him better. He could not have done better "than he has in making the influence of his country felt "and in making clear what his country stands for in the "present world situation. And that is of vital importance "here and now. If there is a chance of saying anything to "that effect at Washington, please do. I had no idea "how damned good he was at his job as a diplomat."

3. It does not surprise me that D'Arcy has paid this tribute to Harold Tittmann. I knew the latter very well in Rome and he is absolutely first-class, and the United States could not have made a better choice from their and our own points of view. I think it would be most useful if a word could be put in at the State Department in the sense suggested by D'Arcy, namely that our Minister reports that the appointment has proved most useful and that Tittmann is doing his job extremely well. I am quite sure it is of great importance that the Vatican should realise where the United States stands and what it stands for at this juncture.

All good wishes to you

Yours ever

Sd Philip Nichols.

N.M. Butler, Esq., C.V.O.
Washington.

Personal.

VATICAN,
July 3rd, 1941.

INDEXED

My dear Phil,

Thankyou very much for your letter (R 5850/30/57) of June 14th. Since writing it I think you will have received further letters from me.

I should think that, with Hitler "crusading for Christianity" at the moment, pressure on and menace to the Vatican, including its guest diplomats, is unlikely to materialize.

I am sure that, like last year, the Pope will remain in Rome and not go to Castel Gandolfo. Even if he did go, I don't think there is a chance of my getting there since the Secretariat of State remains here and my bi-weekly Bags come here and go from here.

I am in no present need of books, having no time to read except when I am eating. The telegraphing has been hellish lately. Two days ago I sent off 800 groups, i.e. 1000 cyphered groups. Yesterday I received 720 groups, i.e. 900 to decypher. And each group involves a triple operation. Further there are a good many cyphering and transmission mistakes in the telegrams received, so that after they are

decyphered, there is a lot of tedious drudgery trying to clean up the message and make its sense clear. My Miss Tindall is a wonderful assistant, but I don't want to impose on her too much. Apart from the cyphering, there is the news business: taking down three broadcasts a day, getting it down on the typewriter twice a day and dictating it three times a week. I hope and think that the recent telegraphic activity has been exceptional. But being my own Cypher Officer and Press Attaché means that I am always rushed and a little behindhand with my proper work of dealing with the contents of telegrams, drafting them, etc. Then there is a lot of miscellaneous business of dealing with enquiries about Prisoners of War, &c.

I tell you this, partly because it does me good to have a good grumble and partly to explain any delays or rushed and scrappy work. There is nothing to be done about it as I cannot get assistance. In any case I would prefer the present state of things to being bottled up in close and unavoidable intimacy with an uncongenial assistant. But if and when a time for peace talks come, or anything else closely involving the Holy See and calling for much telegraphic communication, I shall be in a bad way, for dealing with all this cypher and press business leaves one little energy or brain for anything else, especially in the present heat. I simply can't get on with private cor-

respondence as after dinner I find the best moment for drafting telegrams or other work there has been no time for all day. I also read five papers daily: the Osservatore Romano, two Ktalian and two Swiss.

I try to play tennis two or three times a week with my Polish colleague but, to my considerable anxiety, he has just said that his heart troubled him after our last game. I don't at all want to kill him, poor man. He insists that he will continue to play. Failing tennis I do the usual walk round the Gardens with my dog, who at least has the excitement of hunting lizards. But there is good and cooler air when you get up on top of the Vatican hill and I enjoy the gardens very much. Occasionally I take a sun-bath on the roof here before luncheon, taking infinite precautions not to offend the sight of the Canons of St Peter's or the elderly women of canonical age who serve them. But there is a place where I am securely screened from view. Sometimes the Polish Ambassador's son comes and pours two can of water over me to give the illusion of bathing, but it is not very effective.

No, I never go outside to visit friends. I haven't been outside since I came in a year ago. And now

very few people come inside to see me. Friendship with me and visits to me are discouraged - more than discouraged. I suppose it is quite natural if they suppose that I am spying or sending military information home, though they might realize that, even if I wanted to do so, I could neither obtain the information nor send it home in time to be of any value. I am glad to say that I see Harodd Tittmann fairly frequently and he is a great comfort to me.

It is very hot, but I like heat. Except in the evenings, when the windows have to be shut and these tiny rooms heat terribly from the electric light. I generally undress then. I shall be pretty tired by the end of the summer, I expect, but then I shall get you to send me some vitamin pills.

You might tell any of my friends who ask after me not to run away with the idea that my life is one of leisured ease in a dignified and beautiful oasis of peace and plenty! But I am not complaining at all. It is exceedingly and incessantly interesting and I couldn't be of any more use anywhere else.

I feel better after this letter inspite of the sirocco and an impending afternoon and evening of decyphering.

Love to Phyllis.

Yours ever, D'Arcy

R5-880/30/5-756

BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.

ROME
20, VIA QUATTRO FONTANE

INDEXED

VATICAN CITY
July 9th, 1941.

My dear Phil,

Many thanks for your note of June 19th. You are angelic in your kind efforts to keep me supplied with cigarettes and five hundred large and five hundred small Balkan Sobranje is the ideal method of provision. I am so grateful.

I wrote you a rather shamefully grumbling letter last week, to which not much importance should be paid. I have had less telegraphing this week and the heat is less extreme, so I am feeling better. I find slightly trying the eager announcements of officials of the Secretariat of State that they are just off for their summer leave and a month in the mountains! This is the second summer they have done it to me.

Yours ever

D'Arcy.

P.T.O.

P.S. Have you heard the definition of the war as "the war between plutocracy and kleptocracy"? I am not sure if it is Roman or imported.

P.S. 2. We have had air raid alarms the past two nights. Night before last it was Naples. I don't what it was last night.

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BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.
67 VIA S. NICOLO DA TOLENTINO
ROME (5)

P.S.

My main purpose in this letter was to congratulate you on your well-deserved & long overdue C.M.G.

P.S. 2

Somebody has very kindly sent me a few unwanted books to read,

but there is no indication of who the sender is so I can't thank them. I suppose no one has asked you to forward them?

D.G.O.

31

R

1941

VATICAN

R 5886

6 JUN 1941

60

Registry Number R 5886/30/57.

FROM Extract from "Regima Fascista".

No. 53.

Dated 3rd June 1941.

Received in Registry 6th June 1941.

R:Vatican.

Anti Axis attitude of the Vatican.

The Italian paper "Regime Fascista" accuses the Vatican of being anti-axis and criticizes a Vatican broadcast praising the religious assistance being given to American soldiers and sailors.

Last Paper.
R 5850

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

The extreme Fascists and Nazis have far more reason to be displeased with the Vatican than we have, and could certainly have found better pretexts than that given for this particular attack.

W.C.Knight 10/6

N. Mw 16.6
American Dept.

IN
10/6

(Action completed.)
DC 18/6

(Index.)
Ott
397

Next Paper.
R 5887

18560 2/39 F.O.P

53
WBOS (BOSTON) IN ENGLISH FOR SOUTH AMERICA 05.00 3.6.41.

61

ITALIAN PAPER ACCUSES VATICAN OF BEING ANTI- AXIS

ROME:- '' REGIME FASCISTA'' ACCUSES THE VATICAN OF BEING ANTI AXIS, AND FAVOURING THE OPPONENTS OF ITALY, ESPECIALLY THE USA. THE EDITORIAL SPECIFICALLY CRITICISED A VATICAN BROADCAST PRAISING THE RELIGIOUS ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS. ++++++++++08.26 3.6.41++++++++++

R 5886

6 JUN 1941

XKX
FOREIGN OFFICEKKXD
FOREIGN OFFICEML0930 LAST SERIAL 53 TOLEPRINTED AT 0826 TESTING TES

32

R

1941

VATICAN

R 5887

6 JUN 1941

62

Registry Number } R 5887/30/57.

FROM Radio Vatican.

No. 1st June, 1941.

Dated 6th June, 1941.

Received in Registry }

R: Vatican.

The Pope's Whitsun Message.

The Pope refers to the present difficulties of the Radio Vatican. He calls attention to Leo XIII's encyclical entitled "Rerum Novarum" and discourses on private property and the rights of man, Labour, the family, and migration.

Last Paper.

R 5886

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Minutes)

See within a copy of the Tablet for 7th June, 1941 containing text of the Pope's Whitsun message. Rome Radio had the effrontery to say, of this politically colourless Papal broadcast, "Catholic circles consider that the ideas expressed were those of Fascism and Nazism, whose social system is founded on justice for the working classes and the life of the family, upon which depends the future development of the nation.

W.R.C. Kriegue 16/6

Rev Rabindall.

I hope the M.O.I. dealt faithfully with this Italian distortion + BBC. gave publicity to the impressive international "Rerum Novarum" demonstrations held in this country.

JN 16/6.

Aug R. 16/VI

W.E.C. 17/6

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
OC 19/6	CR 3/7

Next Paper.

R 6/59

18560 2/39 F.O.P.

Mr. Knight.

57
Enclosure
63

You may like to have for record the complete text of the Pope's Whitsun address - not of much political interest.

A.W.S.R.
7/VI

THE TABLET

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AND REVIEW

ESTABLISHED 1840

PUBLISHED AS A NEWSPAPER

VOL. 177 No. 5274 LONDON, JUNE 7th, 1941 SIXPENCE

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By Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood of Anzac

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CHRISTOPHER HOLLIS — On Canada

PIUS DOLAN, O.D.C. — On Trinity Sunday

THE WORLD WEEK BY WEEK

The Syrian Crisis

Syria has become the vital square on the Near Eastern chessboard. We are faced with a most difficult position. If we supinely let the Germans, behind a smoke screen of French denials, establish themselves with Syria as a base, we leave them free to strike very heavily at Iraq or Palestine. The Turks are exposed to isolation and a turned flank. If we seek to anticipate the moment when the mask is dropped, and the full strength of the Germans in Syria is disclosed, we must take action, and use the advantage we have of direct land access. The case for doing so would be plain, did it not play into the hands of Admiral Darlan. For weeks now the great obstacle of French opinion has stood in the way of plans made between the Germans and the Frenchmen whom the Admiral represents. It is a policy repellent to the instincts and the traditions of most Frenchmen, and it has to be introduced very gradually, and always in terms of the most limited self defence. So represented, it may be possible to make French soldiers and sailors line up behind Hitler and against Great Britain, with the idea of compelling peace and, in the peace, substituting France for Italy as European Power number two in the New Order. The policy would never be easy to impose on the French, and President Roosevelt is making it very much more difficult. But the Germans are confronting us with the dilemma of striking at Syria or seeing ourselves fooled and forestalled as that country becomes a base from which they could attack Cyprus with great advantages; and if they took Cyprus, they would have through the islands a fairway between Greece and Palestine. The Turks have no illusions about Vichy policy in Syria, and only a few people in Britain still accept at their face value the half-hearted denials and assurances which are still being issued.

The Evacuation of Crete

The restoration of a friendly regime in Iraq came to mitigate the disappointment of Crete. That loss will be the occasion for the most serious criticisms in the field of operations which Mr. Churchill's administration have yet had to meet. Unlike Norway, we had been many months in Crete, and the question will be whether what had been done in the way of making aerodromes, defending them, and arranging to be able to destroy them, was seriously considered adequate before the attack. Such criticism, in the form a post-mortem, is not to be thought of as crying over spilt milk or scape-goat hunting. It is, in fact though not in form, entirely constructive and concerned with other places besides Crete. For those who decided what Crete required are also the judges of what is required at other more important spots.

It is important that at the beginning of what may well be weeks with reverses in the Near East, the public should get the habit of keeping in right perspectives the whole position of the Mediterranean and Egypt, and the Canal. This area, by sea and land, is of great importance, but it is no longer a life-line. Since Italy entered the war, our main and normal route has been round the Cape; and the heaviest losses of territory in the Near East are not going to lose us the war.

But it would be idle to pretend that our position in the Eastern Mediterranean is not gravely prejudiced by the German possession of Crete. The loss of the anchorage of Suda Bay, and of the potentially valuable air bases of Crete which we had not had time to develop, must considerably restrict the range of our operations. The siege of the Italians in the Dodecanese has been raised, and we may expect those islands to become, under German initiative, more valuable to the enemy than they have been hitherto. Alexandria and Suez are brought nearer for aerial attack, and we must be prepared also to hear of troop transports crossing from Crete to Cyrenaica.

The imprisoned Cretans are not numerous—there are about a third of a million of them—but they are a hardy and war-like race, traditionally as resentful of oppressors as any of the peoples whom the Nazis have subjugated. Although Crete remained under the Ottoman Empire until 1913, a series of risings had won a series of concessions, culminating in autonomy. Crete bred Venizelos, who eventually won the island from the Turks; and whatever one may think about the politics of Venizelos, he was certainly one of the most valiant and valuable of the Greek Anglophils of the present century.

Invasion and Air-Power

The tendency still persists to compare the position of Crete with the position of Britain. The New York *Herald Tribune* has done it. Dr. Ley has done it in an

article in the *Angriff*, claiming that the fighting in Crete was a complete demonstration that the invasion of England would be no more difficult a task. It nevertheless remains the consensus of all expert opinion that we lost Crete solely because of the overwhelming German superiority in the air : solely because the island is too far from air-fields from which our fighters could operate. In any war previous to this, Crete would have been impregnable against the defence of such naval superiority as we still possess in the Mediterranean ; and the fact that we lost it gives considerable support to those who argue for the superiority of air over naval power, granted the proximity of adequate air bases.

In the battle for Crete, the Germans were virtually unopposed in the air. On the first day of the attack the British anti-aircraft batteries had been put out of action by dive-bombers by noon, and nothing but small-arms fire remained to challenge the troop-carriers. There is no comparison between that situation and the situation if an air-borne invasion of Britain should be attempted, simply because the attempt would have to be made by daylight, and the R.A.F. has proved conclusively that in daylight it has complete command of the air over these islands.

The French Aircraft Industry

We were not surprised to learn of the report that Germany has "relaxed" the Armistice terms in order to allow the Vichy Government to expand its Air Force "for the defence of the French Empire." The meaning of this is clearly that the Germans want French aircraft factories to produce aeroplanes for Germany, and know that the workers in those factories are only likely to refrain from strikes and sabotage if they think that they are working for France. It has been easy for the Germans to arrange for French production of machines for the *Luftwaffe*, because the aircraft and aluminium industries in France are concentrated in very few hands, and those the hands of willing "collaborators." But it has been less easy to ensure the necessary co-operation of the men at the lathes and benches. There have lately been reports of twenty executions and hundreds of imprisonments in France for sabotage in the aircraft factories. The men are, therefore, to be told that the aeroplanes they produce will go to strengthen the French Air Force, which they still hope may one day again be used against the Reich. But in fact there is every reason to believe that by far the greater part of their output will be sent direct to help the great German effort to keep ahead of American production.

A Pledge to Islam

One of the more important passages in Mr. Eden's Mansion House Speech was that which referred to the Arabs. No promise of comparable importance has yet been made to the Arabs by a British Foreign Secretary. During the last war, our spokesman was Sir Henry Macmahon, who was British High Commissioner in Cairo, and the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Balfour, virtually contradicted the Macmahon assurances by promising Palestine to the Jews. Mr. Eden, it is true, was too cautious to make any specific reference to the future of Palestine, or indeed to include any geographical definitions in his assurances to the Arabs ; but what he did say was that any genuinely spontaneous pan-Arabic movement may rely on British sympathy and support. "The Arab world has made great strides since the settlement reached at the end of the last war, and many Arab thinkers desire for the Arab peoples a greater degree of unity than they now enjoy. In reaching out for this unity they hope for our support. No such appeal from our friends should go unanswered. It seems to me both natural and right that the cultural and economic ties between the Arab countries, and the political ties too, should be strengthened. His Majesty's Government for their part will give their full support to any scheme that commands general approval."

We greatly hope that these important words will be followed up with more detailed indications of the Government's intentions for a post-war settlement in the Near and Middle East.

Bombs on Dublin

The German bombing of Dublin in the early hours of last Saturday, and the further bombing in County Wicklow, on Whit Sunday, cannot possibly be explained as accidents, whatever may have been their purpose. The lights of Dublin clearly show its identity ; and in any case, a pilot could hardly have been so far out in his navigation as to suppose that this city with the sea to the eastward could be some English east-coast port. Confusion with Belfast is equally unlikely, since the Belfast and Strangford Loughs make the coast-line of County Down unmistakeable. The raiding aircraft had, moreover, been over Dublin for more than an hour before the first bomb was dropped, presumably selecting its objective.

This renewed proof to Eire that the Germans care not a whit for Irish neutrality, which they will violate whenever it should be useful or possible for them, came as a timely comment on the agitation in Dublin against the enforcement of conscription in the Six Counties. A few days previously, Mr. de Valera had been saying in the Dail that "there could be no more grievous attack on any fundamental human right than to force an individual to fight in the forces of another country to which he objected to belong." How many thousands in Europe have not been so conscripted by the Germans—not, indeed, to fight as combatant soldiers, because it is too dangerous to arm them, but to serve as conscript workers in the vast war economy of the Reich ? It is in effect against this enormity that Britain is waging war, and even were the safety of Ireland not threatened, what Irishman can say, after applauding Mr. de Valera's words, that he is indifferent to the outcome, and prefers to call himself a neutral ?

Spanish Workers for the Reich

These workers of the occupied or conquered nations do not only serve the Reich in their homes, maintaining the satellite economies of the New Order ; they have also been sent in their thousands into Germany, to alleviate the chronic shortage of German labour, and to be subjected to Nazi methods of intensive propaganda with a view to accustoming the peoples of Europe as widely as possible to the idea of the overlordship of the *Herrenvolk*. Not only Czechs and Slovaks and Poles have so been sent, but Italians also in large numbers, and, more recently, Frenchmen. We now learn that Spanish workers are also to be sent, as the result of an agreement with the German Labour Front, made by Señor Salvador Merino, representing the Falange, who lately went on a visit to Dr. Ley.

Yet to any visitor to Spain the physical destruction caused by the Civil War, as well as the economic dislocation, is still very apparent. Spain is still under-populated and short of labour, and is less than any other country in a position to meet German demands in this respect.

The Labour Party and Spain

The Labour Party Conference was made the occasion for some criticism of the Ministry of Information and the B.B.C., particularly for their activities in Spain and Portugal. Professor Harold Laski voiced a demand for Labour representation among the Ministers responsible in these fields. It was perhaps in anticipation of some such feeling that the Prime Minister, a few weeks ago, paid a special tribute to the brilliant services Sir Samuel Hoare has been able to render in Spain. Sir Samuel Hoare is in Madrid to carry out a policy decided upon by the War Cabinet and the Foreign Office, a policy of seeking good relations with General Franco's Government. Through a difficult year, relations have been maintained on a footing very much better than those had any right to expect who had always claimed that General Franco was no more than the creature of the Axis. Such critics should recognize today the superior information and policy of the Foreign Office towards Spain, and, recognizing that, should also see that propaganda must follow policy and not stultify it.

Of the recent reshuffle in Spain, one of the most interesting appointments was that of Señor Primo de Rivera

to the Ministry of Agriculture. This brother of the founder of the old Phalange is not at all likely, on past form, to lend himself to the policy of rigorous organization of the land, for which the new Phalange stands. He is one of the younger public men in Spain, who recognize how deep the Spaniards dislike of regimentation goes, and how inappropriate in consequence are the latest German models for human life.

After Mr. Roosevelt's Speech

Some people in this country were perhaps a little disappointed in Mr. Roosevelt's speech, and in particular in the next day's announcement that no immediate executive action was contemplated. On the other hand it was generally hailed in the United States as almost tantamount to a declaration of war. In the attempt to strike a balanced judgment there are factors to be borne in mind. In the first place "a state of emergency" is by no means the rhetorical phrase which some have thought it. According to the American Conscription Act, the declaration of a state of emergency is the technical prerequisite before the President can extend military into industrial conscription.

It seems that a strange poker-game is now being developed. Mr. Roosevelt clearly wishes to face the Germans with the dilemma of either firing first or of else letting the ships through unharmed. Obviously, if the Germans fire first, it has one certain and one possible advantage for the President. It is Germany then that has made war on America, and that frees him from all troubles with Congress, and Congressmen from all troubles with their constituents. Also, according to the Axis Pact, Japan's obligation to go to war only arises if America goes to war with Germany, and not if Germany goes to war with America.

Portugal's Debt to Her President

Last week Portugal celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the brief and bloodless National Revolution led by General Gomes da Costa in 1926; the Revolution which gave Portugal General Carmona as President and, after a little while, Dr. Salazar as Prime Minister, and the real constructor of an *Estado Novo*. In the almost equal period between the overthrow of the Monarchy and 1926, there had been no fewer than eight different Presidents of the Republic and forty-three different Ministries. The first Government of the Republic did not last ten weeks; the longest lasted little over a year. Only by understanding the condition of Portugal before 1926 is it possible to realise what the nation owes to General Carmona and Dr. Salazar, and why the Portuguese should regard fifteen years of political continuity as in itself an achievement. The anniversary has found the regime firmly established on a genuinely popular basis which gives it every prospect of many more years to come.

There has been some tendency in Portugal during the past week to regard Mr. Roosevelt's references to the Azores and the Cape Verde Islands, and their strategic importance in Atlantic warfare, as a threat rather than a guarantee. The *Diario de Noticias*, the chief Lisbon daily, asks how Mr. Roosevelt's words can be reconciled with the assurances given by Mr. Cordell Hull, after Salazar had publicly expressed the anxiety which Portugal feels for the future of the Azores. It is even suggested that Mr. Roosevelt implicitly endorsed the recent demand of Senator Pepper for the occupation of various strategic points in the Atlantic and on the West African coast, including the Cape Verde Islands and the Azores, a demand which drew from Salazar his formal statement.

The Azores

It was notable, however, that that statement did not say that under no circumstances would the Portuguese Atlantic bases be placed at the disposal of the Allies. It asserted, first, that there has not yet been any sort of request or suggestion from any belligerent or other Power regarding the use of any Portuguese port or base; and secondly, that Portugal will defend her three Atlantic archipelagos or any other possession against attack. That is a very different matter to saying that Portugal would never under any circumstances place them, by agreement, at the disposal of an ally or other foreign Power.

For several months now the Portuguese have been steadily shipping troops to strengthen the garrisons in the Azores. We have, however, good reason to believe that this is being done, not so much in fear of a British or American attack on those islands, as in preparation for their defence should a German invasion of Portugal by land make it necessary for the Portuguese Government temporarily to retire to Horta. The Portuguese are merely doing all they can to provide against the possibility that they will need the Azores as the Greeks needed Crete. The increasing subservience of the Vichy French to the Germans makes this all the more necessary, just as it increases anxiety in Spain.

Rules for Dutch Journalists

If any Frenchmen are likely to be gulled by the propaganda about a New Europe under German leadership, let them ponder the rules just promulgated for Dutch journalists. These rules make it plain that the Germans do not intend that the Dutch shall ever be free and independent again. The papers are to be full of the new concepts, and of the advantages of the new Germanic order, and dire penalties, in which the Germans are past masters, are loudly threatened against any Dutch journalist who should presume to write differently.

The Peace Aims of Communism

Mr. Eden in his Mansion House speech did something to appease the people who are always demanding the formulation now of our post-war policy. Those who seek an explanation of the persistence of these demands may perhaps find a clue in the instructions recently issued to the Swiss Communist Party, and quoted by *La Liberté*, of Fribourg. "It is imperative," says this document, "to utilize the state of tension provoked by a protracted war, and to mobilize all those who suffer from the present difficulties. The masses should be made to claim from their rulers the undertaking to create a new social order for the post-war period. But it is not advisable yet to talk of a Social-Communist order; it is enough for the time being to exploit the desire for a change felt by many citizens, and to utilize it for the stirring-up of an agitation to be intensified later by speculations on the food difficulties and the anxieties created by the war of nerves.

"Propaganda should henceforth emphasize the similarity between the present situation and that of 1918, without any reference to a general strike. It is enough for the present to show that the political position is already more tense than it was by the end of the last war. In fact, if the general strike proved a failure at that time, it was for want of tactical preparation. We shall have to proceed more slowly, to prepare public opinion more carefully, and to create a permanent state of tension that will favour an eventual proclamation of the general strike."

These illuminating instructions conclude with detailed suggestions of methods of "making the *bourgeoisie* unconsciously absorb the principles of Marxist Revolution."

The "New Statesman"

A fortnight ago we mentioned that the *New Statesman* had made three misquotations in a single sentence from THE TABLET. The *New Statesman* now asserts that we were remonstrating with them for "misrepresenting THE TABLET's faith in Raschid Ali." It enlarges on what it calls "THE TABLET's faith that Arab anti-Bolshevism would keep Raschid Ali pro-British and anti-German," and says that such a belief is both fatuous and harmful. It is indeed so, and it is equally obvious to any reader of THE TABLET that we have never described Raschid Ali as either pro-British or anti-German. Is it likely that anybody believes that he is? The *New Statesman* should not permit its disagreement with our views to lead it into such wildness.

In quick succession we are told by the *New Statesman* that we thought that Raschid Ali was pro-British, and that we thought that he was in league with the Soviets. Such a conjunction might seem plausible in some quarters, but not to us.

PRO ECCLESIA DEI, PRO REGE ET PATRIA

THE TABLET

The Tablet Publishing Company Ltd.

39 Paternoster Row, London, E.C.4.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 1941

THE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE CHURCH

"FROM the form given to society," declares Pope Pius XII in the address printed on pages 447-449, "whether conforming or not to the Divine Law, depends and emerges the good or ill of souls; that is, the decisions of men, all called to be revived by the grace of Christ, do actually in the detailed stress of their lives raise up a healthy and vivifying atmosphere of truth and moral virtue, or the disease-laden and often fatal air of error and corruption." The address, with its dexterous appropriation of the Axis slogan of vital space to the right of the Christian family, to lebensraum, to air and soil, and room, as against the stifling and all-embracing state, is a most timely restatement of Catholic teaching on society, on the limits to the authority of States. It comes at a moment when there is in the unbelieving modern world an increasing readiness to question the wisdom and rightness of the whole trend of modern history which, in the great name of freedom, has filled the world with groups not admitting the claims of any common authority on the moral foundations of society. As a sign of this growing realization of the key place of religion, we may consider very pertinent the essay which Professor John MacMurray has just issued under the title of "Challenge of the Churches."*

This pamphlet has an interest and an importance wholly beyond the series to which it belongs, a series full of shouted imperatives, and musts, whose grouped titles give the impression of a champing angry queue. Professor MacMurray is a soul apart from these restless men with their immediate preoccupations to end this, or to impose that. That is a great merit, and it can only do great good if this latest book of his is very widely read among the unbelieving Left. In the first place, he has a much better idea than they have of the importance of religion as such. He knows it is what makes societies and binds them together. He knows, as so few outside the Church know, that organized and institutional religion is the great real safeguard of human liberty against the all-embracing State. He writes, in the italics of special emphasis, "*So long as the field of religion is excluded from the competence of political authority, everything is excluded which democracy requires. And religion could, of itself, enforce the limitation of political authority which democracy demands. Indeed, in the long run, only religion is capable of doing this.*"

Then he states the Catholic idea of religion—which is also the normal and well nigh the universal idea of it—as something essentially social. The worst definition ever given of religion was that it is what an individual does with his solitariness. It is the great Protestant error, surviving among men who have shed all conscious doctrinal belief, that religion is only a personal and private matter. On the contrary, writes Professor MacMurray, "Religion is the primary manifestation of the social character of human nature, and it is concerned with society, not with the individual. It is primary both in time and in importance. Historically, religion is the earliest expression of human reflection: the unique form of culture in primitive life, from which the other forms have been derived during the long process of social development. Poetry and literature, sculpture and painting, music and dancing—all the arts in a word; philosophy and the sciences, as well as morality, law and politics take their rise in religion. It is also true that in their developed, autonomous forms only religion can bind them in a unity of life to one another, and to the service of the society in which they flourish." And he concludes this stage of his argument with the judgment that "the notion that religion is an individual matter concerned with the salvation of the individual soul is an abstraction; produced, we may guess, by the *desire* to extrude religion from the social field."

There is no genuine antithesis between the primary end of religion, which is individual salvation, and its nature and mode of action, which is social. Religion is concerned with unity, with binding men together, with communion, and as communions religious societies are described. The State is concerned with society, with "the organization of power for the enforcement of law." Social unity becomes more and not less necessary as a civilization advances, and it can be achieved by the presence of religious unity or by the compulsive unity of the State, by love or fear, both necessary to human life. The totalitarian States, and the breakdown of democratic States like France, both witness to this truth, that a bond there must be, and if it is not the voluntary bond it will be the bond of compulsion. "The totalitarian State of today is the last result of a process which was set going by the breakdown of medieval Christendom. Medieval religion was a synthesis of medieval culture, which effectively limited political power." The importance of religion is then clear. It is the natural way by which merely political authority can be limited, and since limitation must be sought by all who, like Professor MacMurray, want freedom and equality.

But it is here, about half-way through his essay, that we begin to part company with Professor MacMurray, and to regret that a man who has seen so much has not seen more. He distinguishes between two kinds of religion, those which conserve, holding societies together, and those which create, collecting and establishing new societies. The rest of his argument turns on this distinction. The Christian religion began by being creative, it became conservative when it became the official creed of the Roman Empire, and in all its forms it is conservative and uncreative today. It has attempted to be both, and this self-contradiction caused it to break up into antagonistic fragments, and to lose its influence. Here Professor MacMurray is plainly referring to the Reformation and post-Reformation centuries. Yet the smoke screen used to conceal the transformation of a creative into a conservative creed was the "spiritualizing" of the Gospel, the handing over to the State of material concerns, and the preoccupation of the Church with the next world. On no view of history does this make much sense. The Church was never more preoccupied with its spiritual message, and more indifferent to earthly society, than in the first three centuries. Indeed, Professor MacMurray recognizes this very plainly when he

* *Challenge to the Churches, Religion and Democracy. The Democratic Order.* Ed. FRANCIS WILLIAMS. Kegan Paul. 1s.

makes Constantine the turning point at which the Church became a conservative force. He suggests, in fact, a version the very opposite of what historically happened. What happened was that from the fourth century, onwards through the great Bishops of whom St. Ambrose and St. Gregory are the supreme types, Roman officials became Bishops, the Church took far more interest than ever before in the whole range of civil and social life. So far from a smoke screen being put up then, the spiritual preoccupations of those centuries when the Church's main concern was to be allowed to live, were expanded, or, it might be said, diluted, to take in the whole of public life ; and the mental fashions were established which linger in such works as these.

By Professor MacMurray's account, the smoke screen went up in the fourth century, and led to the splitting of the communion in the sixteenth, and to popular disaffection in the eighteenth and nineteenth ! He is indeed both bold and unsuccessful in his attempt to reverse the traditional Protestant account that the Church took too much interest in public and private life, not merely controlling marriage, but forbidding usury, and bullying temporal rulers, and in general, failing to confine itself to the next world. It was those temporal rulers who encroached and established themselves on what was during the long centuries of Christendom, the Church's domain, who must bear the main responsibility, and it is adding insult to injury to write "The Church has itself decided that the effort to establish the Kingdom of Heaven on earth shall be a purely secular effort." The historical fact is that the Church was progressively extruded, and nowhere more completely or effectively than in our own country, where it was first nationalized, and then pushed into a smaller and smaller field, until by the twentieth century it had no particular voice in any legislation, even over marriage, had some partial voice in elementary education, but was otherwise kept to the pulpit and the altar. We are today children whose teeth are on edge, because our forbears wolfed down the sour grapes, swallowed the secular promises, and really believed, from the eighteenth century onwards, that men had only to get rid of the institutional Church. Neither politics nor learning, nor the arts, have been the better for emancipating themselves from religion, its imperatives and its inspirations. We are at the end of a false trail. What is important now is to free ourselves from the thraldom to the secular view of history, the fashion of blaming the Church for a powerlessness which was imposed by the triumphant and proud lay spirit.

Consider business, for example. The Canon law never succeeded in establishing complete authority, in enforcing its conceptions as that a just price could be sought and found, or that usury was a common and great sin against justice. But the fact that men accepted the idea that the teaching Church was the proper body to speak on such issues did save the Middle Ages from the view that "business is business," that a whole important field of activity was governed by its own laws and its own morality, and that preachers should learn to leave it alone, and be content if men reappeared from the week-day slime all clean and dressed for Church parade, and gave some portion of the booty, a little in their lifetime and a little more in their wills, to religion and to charity. The emancipation of business was achieved gradually, for it was an immense revolution of thought, but it was achieved by the eighteenth century ; and it was the prerequisite for that particular soulless quality which marked the industrial revolution. The essence of that revolution, and of its great and quick results for its entrepreneurs, was not invention, or subdivision, or freedom of trade, it was the treatment of labour as a commodity, the destruction of all the non-economic obstacles to the free absorption of hands and their equally free and swift discharge. The back to back houses of the nineteenth century industrial towns were a testimony in brick to what was thought of the home by the new outlook of a business set free from the trammels of theology. What is self-evident of modern business is as plainly true of modern politics. Those who write history still commonly see the whole picture from upside down. They acclaim each successive step in the process from the thirteenth century until today, by which the universal action of the Church as the guardian of faith and morals, was at first subordinated to the pleasure of territorial rulers in many places, including Britain ; and extruded from the life of the State, except to the extent to which statesmen chose to preserve it. In our own time we have seen how the State itself too easily usurps all the prerogatives, if the Church is not strongly entrenched in the human consciousness.

That is a familiar story enough, but it is not understood unless it is seen in its place, as one example of the encroachments of the secular. As it is a common device in international affairs always to cover attack with the vocabulary of defence, so the successive invasions and encroachments which religion has suffered in the recent centuries have been presented not as aggression, but as emancipation and liberation. Man, so acting, has injured himself, for he needs the light and the support of religious truth in all the main actions of his human cycle, and in none more than in his social organization.

THE WAR IN THE NEAR EAST

II.—THE MOHAMMEDAN WORLD

By FIELD-MARSHAL LORD BIRDWOOD OF ANZAC

WITH the loss of Crete, the battle draws nearer to the Middle East, to the countries which are all comprehensively described as the Mohammedan world. The swift collapse of Raschid Ali's pro-German Government in Iraq, due in great part to its unpopularity, and we may recognize this as the first, the outstanding and the most important of the characteristics of the Mohammedan world in this struggle, that its sympathies are strongly with us and against the enemy.

We must never underrate the importance of this Mohammedan support in our struggle. The Nazi creed is primarily an attack on Christianity, but its totalitarian claims are equally an attack on all other forms of organized religion, and of those other religions practically the most important is the Mohammedan. The Mohammedan situation is not more simple than is the Christian situation. The inhabitants of Europe call themselves Christian. Yet that by no means implies that they are united among themselves, nor does it follow that every professing Christian in taking his side in face of the German menace looks primarily to the welfare of the Christian religion. It may be that he should, but it does not unfortunately follow that he does so. We know this well enough of the Christians amongst whom we live, but we are apt to forget that there are similar divisions and similar failures in single-mindedness among the professors of other religions. Mohammedanism is certainly no more united than is Christianity. There are the same divisions of sects. There are among Mohammedans, as among Christians, faint-hearted believers and many who adapt their views to worldly or corrupt motives. Yet for all that, it remains that the power of Islam is an enormous power in the world and that that power is opposed to Nazism.

There are three parts of the world where the influence of Mohammedanism is all-important. In the first place there is India. As we are often told, King George VI is the greatest Mohammedan potentate in the world, and by far the greater number of British Mohammedan subjects are residents of the Indian Empire.

So, first in size and weight, but further from the field of battle, are the Moslems of India. They have not been slow to recognize that they, too, are vitally concerned in the issue of the war, and it gladdens the heart of one who in days not very distant had the honour to command the armed forces of India, to see now splendidly Indian troops have

been fighting in the African campaign, how prodigal are the offerings of the Indian Princes, and however growing the scale of India's war effort. I received the other day from a Mohammedan ruler a letter which typifies their spirit. He wrote to me "I am leaving very shortly for a trip overseas in an attempt to do my little bit in serving our beloved King Emperor and the Empire. . . . We are all doing our level best towards the fulfilment of a common aim—the destruction of the Bully."

In India, the Mohammedan reaction to Nazism has been, as is known, far more vigorous than the Hindu. It is not of course that there is the least sympathy or similarity between Hinduism and Nazism, but rather that the Mohammedan is a fighting creed, whereas the Hindu with exceptions, as, for instance, among the Sikhs, tends to pacifism and contempt for the world and the conquest of evil by the weapons of tolerance and non-resistance. These are weapons whose effectiveness against such comparatively humane natures as the British are very considerable, but which are useless against a completely ruthless foe, impervious to any humane sentiment, such as the Nazi. The Mohammedans, be it remembered, are but a minority of the population of India. Close association for over 150 years, admiration for their qualities and the need of self-preservation obviously combine to make it quite impossible for us ever to think of deserting our Mohammedan friends in India. Equally we always wish and try to live happily with the Hindus, but so long as Hindus and Mohammedans are quite unable to agree among themselves, the problem is indeed a difficult one. Those critics, both in this and in other countries, who so glibly clamour for the British Government to grant further extensions of Indian Home Rule, are often less than helpful. It is indeed far from clear how the institution of complete democracy can be anything but a farce when made to a people the basis of whose faith is a maintenance of the most rigid class distinctions.

Nor is the solution of the Mohammedan question in that country by any means easy to see, for the Mohammedan demand, as voiced by their official leader, Mr. Jinnah, is not within practical politics. Mr. Jinnah's demand is for a partition of India between Mohammedan and Hindu. But partition would be even more difficult in India than it has proved in Ireland. For the Mohammedan population there is very far from being homogeneous. In particular are the Mohammedans divided between those of the North-West frontier and those of Bengal, with many large scattered bodies all over the Continent of India. In that country the crust that divides society from a collapse into anarchy is even thinner perhaps than elsewhere, and it is only too probable that impractical and pedantic constitutional experiments, however high-minded the intentions of those who indulge in them, would in fact result in plunging the whole vast sub-continent into anarchy. An easy solution is then by no means at hand; nevertheless it would be a great mistake to think that all Indians are of the same type as some of their more vocal political leaders. The vast majority of the population has a very full appreciation of the virtues of British order, and, without perhaps looking on the British with any extreme of affection, has at the same time no desire whatever to exchange their rule for either that of anarchy or that of Hitler. Whatever the future may hold for us there, as far as this war is concerned at any rate, unless we throw it away through some act of incredible folly, we can rely on the solid and active support of Mohammedan opinion and certainly the marked preference for us over Hitler by the vast majority of the Hindus.

There is much the same story to be told throughout the Middle East. There it must be remembered that Turkey is of course no longer a Mohammedan Power. Plans for the reform of Islam were submitted to Kemal Ataturk, but he would have none of them. When he got rid of the Khalifate he preferred to overthrow organized religion altogether, regarding such as an enemy of progress.

The Turkish policy has not, however, been followed throughout Arabia. It is possible of course to find individual Moslems in every country of the nature of Raschid Ali, as indeed it is possible to find individual Christians, who prefer German gold to their faith. But too much should not be made of them. When you get down into Arabia, you find a Mohammedanism of a very different sort from the corrupt and modernist versions of more sophisticated countries. With such people as the Wahabis you find a fierce and ultra-Puritanical faith, quite unwilling to make the smallest compromise away from the full rigour of the law. There one can be confidently certain that Hitler will find no sympathy, though how effective the opposition to him of such people as those of Saudi Arabia would be, is, of course, another question. Brave and disciplined as the troops are, they are lacking in the mechanical equipment which would enable them to stand up to a German blitzkrieg.

The argument by which the Germans hope to win over, or at least to divide, Arab sentiment is, of course, to represent the British as the enemies of Islam, enslaved to the Jewish power and prepared to hand over to the Jew the Mohammedan country of Palestine. Von Roser, the former German Consul at Beirut, is in charge of the propaganda machine that is working night and day along this line. Everyone is aware of the situation immediately before the war and of Arab resentment at the Zionist policy, and this card is the obvious one for the Germans, from their point of view, to play. Obviously too the Arabs are discontented with things as they are, and greatly hope that some modification of the *status quo* favourable to themselves will come out of the war. At the same time it is as difficult to think of any solution of the Palestinian question which will satisfy both Moslem and Jew as it is to think of a solution of the Indian question which will satisfy both Moslem and Hindu. Nevertheless the Arabs, whatever their grievances, have shown a power of sane calculation throughout this war, and a realization that, even though things might not be perfect from their point of view under the British, they would certainly be a very great deal worse under the Germans. It is to the credit of their realism that they should have seen this in spite of the German propaganda that has been carried out so virulently by the important German agent, the Grand Mufti.

The flamboyant claims of Mussolini to be the "protector of Islam" have on the whole probably reacted to our advantage, owing to the decline of Italian prestige when it was shown that he was so ridiculously unable to make good his boasts. On the other hand the French collapse in Syria has been a blow to European prestige. It is almost certain that the French will never be able to re-establish themselves there in any effective sense, and unlikely that any other Power will succeed in doing so. In any event the French had always promised the Syrians that they were eventually to receive an independence similar to that of Irak, and it is most probable that this solution, probably the best, will be accepted. There is no reason to prophesy that the experiment will be a failure, for, clearly, no one can say with any confidence what will happen.

In Africa it is clear that the Mohammedan peoples of the Abyssinian Empire were no more enthusiastic for the Italian rule than were others, though they may have no real enthusiasm for Haile Selassie's Coptic regime. In Egypt you have again a Mohammedan population, though not one whose Mohammedanism is always strict or enthusiastic. The taboos of the religion, such as that on strong drink, have often been disregarded by the Egyptians. It is clear that Egyptian opinion is again, with comparatively few personal exceptions, on our side, and hopes for our victory and the successful defence of the Canal. The Egyptians fear the Germans, and both dislike and despise the Italians. They dislike them because of Graziani's record of brutality, especially in Libya, and despise them because the Italians, a proletarian people, have accepted a labourer's status in Oriental countries in a way that the nationals of no other great European Power have done.

The Egyptian Army, it is true, has been greatly improved by British training. The cynic may ask what the purpose of training may be for an army which will not be used, as it is hard to think what conditions the Egyptians will consider to constitute an attack on their country if they do not consider the present operations to constitute one. Yet, good-will is a certain asset, and it must never be overlooked that there are advantages, of however unspectacular a nature, in having the good-will of the non-belligerents from whose base one operates.

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THE WHIT-SUNDAY ADDRESS OF POPE PIUS XII

(The following may be regarded as virtually a complete text. Some sentences at the beginning and near the end were imperfectly transmitted, and we have omitted them, but they were not of substantial importance.)

"WE present to you, in the midst of the difficulties and the straits of the present hour, a message of love, encouragement and comfort. We speak to you at a moment when every energy and force, physical and intellectual, of an ever-increasing section of mankind, is being strained to a degree and intensity never before known, under the iron, inexorable law of war, when from other radio aerials are going forth words full of passion, bitterness, division and attack, but the aerial of the Vatican Hill, on the ground consecrated by the martyrdom of the Apostle Peter, can transmit only such words as are inspired and pervaded by the comforting spirit of the Apostle Peter's first Whitsun speech in Jerusalem."

After recalling the events of the first Pentecost in Jerusalem, the Pope went on : "With a genuine delight We today make use of so wonderful an instrument, in order to call to the attention of the Catholic world a memory worthy of being written in letters of gold on the calendar of the Church : the fiftieth anniversary of the publication, on May 15th, 1891, of the epoch-making special Encyclical of Leo XIII : *Rerum Novarum*. It was in the profound conviction that the Church has not only the right, but even the duty to make an authoritative pronouncement on the social question, that Leo XIII addressed his message to the world. He had no intention of laying down guiding principles on the purely practical, We might say technical, side of the social structure ; for he was well aware of the fact, as Our immediate predecessor, of sacred memory, Pius XI, pointed out ten years ago in his commemorative Encyclical, *Quadragesimo Anno*, that the Church does not claim such a mission. In the general framework of labour, to stimulate the sane and responsible development of all the energies, physical and spiritual, of individuals and their free organizations, there opens up a wide field of action where the public authority comes in with its integrating and co-ordinating activity, exercised first through the local and professional corporation, and finally through the activity of the State itself, whose higher, moderating social authority has the important duty of forestalling the dislocation of economic balance arising from the plurality and divergence of clashing interests, individual and collective.

"It is, on the other hand, the indisputable competence of the Church, on that side of the social order where it mixes and enters into contact with the moral order, to decide whether the bases of a given social system are in accord with the unchangeable order which God our Creator and Redeemer has shown us through the natural law and revelation ; that two-fold manifestation to which Leo XIII appealed in his Encyclical, and with reason. For the dictates of the natural law and of those of revelation stream forth in a different manner, like two streams of water that do not flow against one another, but together, from the same divine source. And the Church, guardian of the supernatural Christian order in which Nature and grace converge, must form the consciences even of those who are called upon to find a solution of the problems, and of the duties imposed by social life. From the form given to society, whether conforming or not to the Divine Law, depends and emerges the good or ill of souls ; that is, the decisions of men, all called to be revived by the grace of Christ, do actually in the detailed stress of their lives raise up a healthy vivifying atmosphere of truth and moral virtue or the disease-laden and often fatal air of error and corruption. Before I touch upon such an anticipation, how could the Church, loving Mother that she is, solicitous for the welfare of her children, remain an indifferent onlooker in their danger, remain silent, or feign not to see or take cognisance of social conditions which, whether one will it or not, make difficult or practically impossible a Christian life in conformity with the precepts of the Divine Lawgiver ?

"Conscious of such a grave responsibility, Leo XIII, addressing his Encyclical to the world, pointed out to the conscience of Christians the errors and dangers of the materialistic, socialistic conception, the fatal consequences of economic liberalism, so often unaware or forgetful or contemptuous of social duties, and exposed with merciless gravity and wonderful precision the principles that were necessary and were suitable for improving gradually and peacefully the material and spiritual lot of the workers. You ask Us today, beloved children, after fifty years from the date of publication of the Encyclical, to what extent the efficacy of his message corresponded to its noble intentions, to its passages so full of truth, to the beneficent directions and suggestions made by its wise author. We feel we must answer that. It is precisely to render to Almighty God from the bottom of our hearts our humble thanks for the gifts which fifty years ago he bestowed on the Church in that Encyclical of his vicar on earth, and to praise him for the life-giving breath of the Spirit, which in ever growing measure from that time on has blown on all Mankind, that We, on this feast of Pentecost, have decided to address you.

"Our predecessor, Pius XI, has already exalted in the first part of his commemorative Encyclical the splendid crop of good to which *Rerum Novarum*, like a fertile sowing, has given rise. From it sprang forth Catholic social teaching, which gave to the children of the Church, priests and laymen, an orientation, and a method for social reconstruction which was overflowing with good projects, for through it arose in the Catholic field numerous and diverse beneficent institutions that were flourishing centres of reciprocal help for themselves and others. What an amount of well-being, material and natural, what spiritual and supernatural profit has come to the workers and their families from the Catholic Unions. How efficacious and suited to their needs has been the help provided by the syndicates and associations in favour of the agricultural and middle classes, to relieve their wants, defend them from injustice, and in this way, by soothing passions, to save the social peace from disorder. Nor was this the whole benefit. The Encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, coming down to the people, and greeting them with esteem and love, went deep into the hearts of the working class, and inspired them with a sense of Christian sentiment and civic dignity. Indeed its powerful influence gained with the passage of the years, to expand and spread to such an extent that its norms became almost the common property of all men, and while the State in the nineteenth century through excessive exultation of liberty, considered as its exclusive scope the safeguarding of liberty by the law, Leo XIII admonished it that it had also the duty to interest itself in social welfare, taking care of the entire people and of all its members, especially the weak and the dispossessed, through a generous social programme and the creation of a labour code. It called for, and met with, a powerful response, and it is a clear duty of justice to recognize the progress which has been achieved in the lot of the workers by the steps taken by civil authorities in many lands.

"Hence it was well said that *Rerum Novarum* became the Magna Carta of Christian and social endeavour. Meanwhile there was a half century which has left deep furrows, grievous disturbance in the domain of society. The questions which social and especially economic changes and upheavals offered for moral consideration after *Rerum Novarum* have been repeated with penetrating acumen by Our immediate predecessor in the Encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno*. The ten years that have followed it have been no less fraught with surprises in social and economic life than the years which preceded it, and have finally poured their dark and turbulent waters into the sea of a war whose unforeseen currents may affect our economy and society. What problems and what particular undertakings, some perhaps entirely novel, our social life will present to the care of the Church at the end of this conflict, which sets so many people against one another, it is difficult at the moment to trace or foresee. If, however, the future has its roots in the past, if the experience of recent years is to be our guide for the future, We feel We may avail ourselves of this commemoration to give some further directive moral principles on three fundamental values of social and economic life ; and we shall do this animated by the very spirit of Leo the Thirteenth, and unfolding his views which were more than prophetic, presaging the social evolution of

the day. These three fundamental values which are closely connected one with the other, mutually complementary and dependent, are, the use of material goods, labour, and the family. Here we deal with principles which have lost nothing of their inherent vigour with the passage of time, and today, fifty years after, strike their roots deeper, and retain their innate vitality.

"In our Encyclical *Sertum Laetitiae*, directed to the Bishops of the United States of America, We call the attention of all to the basic idea of those principles which consist in the assertion of the unquestionable need that the goods which were created by God for all men should flow equally to all, according to the principles of justice and charity. Every man as a living being, gifted with reason, has in fact from nature the fundamental right to make use of the material goods of the earth, while it is left to the will of man, and to the juridical statutes of nations, to regulate in greater detail the exercise of this right. This individual right cannot in any way be suppressed, even by other clear and undisputed rights over material goods. Undoubtedly, the natural order deriving from God demands also private property and the free reciprocal commerce of goods by interchange and gift, as well as the functioning of the State as a control over all these institutions. All this remains subordinated to the natural scope of material goods, and cannot emancipate itself from the first and fundamental right, which concedes their use to all men. But it should rather serve to make possible the actuation of this right in conformity with its scope. Only thus can We, and must We, secure that private property and the use of material goods bring to society peace and prosperity, and long life, and that they no longer set up precarious conditions which will give rise to struggles and jealousy, and which are left to the mercy of the blind interplay of force and weakness. The natural right to the use of material goods, intimately linked as it is to the dignity and other rights of the human person, together with such statutes mentioned above, provides man with a secure material basis of the highest import on which to rise to the fulfilment with reasonable liberty of his moral duties. The safe guardianship of this right will ensure the personal dignity of man, and will facilitate for him assent to, and the fulfilment of, that sum of stable duties and decisions for which he is directly responsible to his Creator. Man has, in truth, the entirely personal duty to preserve and order to perfection his material and spiritual life, so as to secure the religious and moral scope which God has assigned to all men, and has given them as the supreme norm, obliging always and everyone before all other duties. To safeguard the inviolable sphere of the rights of the human person, and to facilitate the fulfilment of his duties, should be the essential office of every public authority, the power of which flows from the genuine concept of the common good which the State is called upon to promote. Hence, it follows that the care of such common good does not imply a power so extensive over the members of the community that in virtue of it the public authority can interfere with the evolution of that individual activity which we have just described, decide on the beginning or the ending of human life, determine at will the manner of its physical, spiritual, religious and moral movements in opposition to the personal duties or rights of man and condition, or abolish or deprive of efficacy his natural right to material goods. To deduce such extension of power from the care of the common good would be equivalent to overthrowing the very meaning of the words "common good," and falling into the error that the proper scope of man on earth is society, that society is an end in itself, that man has no other life which awaits him beyond that which ends here below. Likewise, the national economy, if it is the product of men who work together in the community of the State, has no other end than to secure, without interruption, the material conditions in which the individual life of the citizen will be fully developed. Where this is secured in a permanent way a people will be, in a true sense, economically rich, because the general well-being, and consequently the personal right of all to the use of worldly goods, is thus actuated in conformity with the purpose willed by the Creator.

"From this, beloved children, it will be easy for you to conclude that the economic riches of a people do not properly consist in the abundance of goods measured according to a purely and solely material calculation of their worth, but in the fact that such an abundance represents and offers, really and effectively, the material basis sufficient for the proper personal development of its members. If such a distribution of goods were not secured, or were effected only imperfectly, the real scope of national economy would not be attained, for, although there were at hand a lucky abundance of goods to dispose of, the people, in not being called upon to share them, would not be economically rich, but poor. Suppose, on the other hand, that such a distribution is effected genuinely and permanently, and you will see a people, even if it disposes of less goods, making itself economically sound. These fundamental concepts regarding the riches and poverty of people seem to us particularly opportune to set before you today, when there is a tendency to measure and adjudge. Such riches and poverty cannot be measured by balance sheets and purely quantitative criteria of the needs or the redundance of goods. If, instead, the scope of the national economy is correctly considered, then it will become a guide for the efforts of statesmen and peoples, and will enlighten them to walk spontaneously along a way which does not call for continual exaction in goods and blood, but will give fruits of peace and general welfare.

"With the wealth of material goods, you yourselves, dear children, see how labour is connected. *Rerum Novarum* teaches that there are two essential characteristics of human labour; it is personal, and it is necessary. It is personal because it is achieved through the exercise of man's particular forces. It is necessary because without it we cannot procure what is indispensable to life. And man through a miraculous great individual obligation, maintains life. To the personal duty to labour imposed by nature corresponds the natural right of each individual to make of labour the means to provide for his own life and for that of his child, so profoundly is the empire of Nature ordained for the preservation of man.

"But, note that a special duty and the corresponding right to work is imposed on, and conceded, to the individual, in the first instance, by Nature, and not by society as if Man were nothing more than a mere slave or official of the community. From that it follows that the duty and the right to organize the labour of the people belongs, above all, to the people immediately interested, the employers and the workers. If they do not fulfil their function or cannot because of special extraordinary contingencies fulfil them, then it falls back on the State to intervene in the field of labour, and in the division and distribution of work according to the form and measure that the common good, properly understood, demands. In any case, every legitimate and beneficial interference of the State in the field of labour should be kept so as to safeguard and respect its personal character, both in the broad outline and, as far as possible, in what concerns its execution. And this will happen if the norm of the State do not abolish or render impossible the exercise of other rights and duties equally personal, such as the rights to give God his due worship, the right to marry, the rights of husband and wife, or father and mother, to lead their married domestic life, the right to a reasonable liberty in the choice of a state of life and of the fulfilment of a true vocation, a personal life belonging to the spirit of man, and sublime from the higher imprescriptible right of God and of the Church, as in the choice and fulfilment of the priestly and religious vocation.

"According to the teaching of *Rerum Novarum*, Nature itself has closely joined private property with the existence of human society and its true civilization, and in a very special manner with the existence and development of the family. Such a link appears more than obvious. Should not private property secure for the father of a family the healthy liberty he needs in order to fulfil the duties assigned to him by the Creator regarding the physical, spiritual and religious welfare of the family? In the family the nation finds the natural roots of its greatness and power. If private property has to conduce to the good of the family, all public standards, and especially those of the State which regulate its possession, must not only make possible and preserve such a function, a function in the natural order under certain aspects superior to all others, but must also perfect it evermore. A so-called civil progress would, in practice, be unnatural, which was so exaggerated in its interference as to render private property void of significance, practically taking from the family and its head the freedom to follow the scope set by God for the perfection of family life. Of all the goods that can be the object of private property, none is more concernable to nature, according to the teaching of *Rerum Novarum*, than the land,

the holding in which the family lives, and from the products of which it draws all or part of its subsistence. It is in the spirit of *Rerum Novarum* to state that, as a rule, only that stability which is rooted in one's own holding makes of the family the vital and most perfect cell of society, joining up in a brilliant manner in its progressive cohesion the present and the future generations. If today the concept and the creation of vital spaces is at the centre of social and political aims, should not one, before all else, think of the vital space of the family, and free it from the fetters which do not permit even the formulation of the idea of a homestead of one's own ?

"Our planet, with all its extent of oceans and seas and lakes, with mountains and plains covered with eternal snow, with great deserts and tractless lands, is not without other habitable regions and vital spaces, now abandoned to wild natural vegetation, and well suited to be cultivated by man to satisfy his needs. And more than once it is inevitable that some families, migrating from one spot or another, should go elsewhere in search of a new homeland. Then, according to the teaching of *Rerum Novarum*, the right of a family to a vital space is recognized. When this happens, migration attains its natural scope. . . . We mean the more favourable distribution of men on the earth's surface; capable colonies of agricultural workers, that surface which God created and prepared for the use of all. If the two parties, those who agree to leave their native land, and those who agree to admit the newcomers, remain anxious to eliminate as far as possible all obstacles to the birth and growth of real confidence between the country of immigration and country of emigration, then all those affected by such a transfer of peoples will profit by the transaction. The families will receive a plot of ground which will become home for them in the true sense of the word. Thickly inhabited countries will be relieved and their people will acquire new friends in foreign countries, and the State which receives the emigrants will acquire industrious new citizens. In this way the nations which give, and those which receive, will both contribute to the increased welfare of man, and to the progress of human culture.

"My beloved children, these are the principles, conceptions, and rules under which we may co-operate as from now on in the future organization of that new order for the birth of which, out of the dreadful effervescence of the present struggle, the world is waiting and wishing for in peace and justice.

"If it seems at times that there is lack of proportion between resolves and the way they are carried out ; if slips common to all men are at times committed, if contrary views are held about the ways which had been followed or should be followed, all this may slow down your progress. But these obstacles must not blur your memories of the comforting fact that there sprang, from the inspired message of *Rerum Novarum*, a limpid and vivacious fountain of a strong, sincere and disinterested social spirit. This fountain may be overcast today by an avalanche of diverse and powerful winds ; but tomorrow, when the debris of the world hurricane has been removed, when the work of reconstruction sets in for the building of a new social world worthy of God and man, this fountain will impart a fresh and powerful impulse ; it will grant a fresh sap of growth and florescence for all the flowers of human culture. You must watch over this noble flame of a fraternal social spirit, the luminous and illuminating torch of the words of Leo XIII."

The Pope went on to warn against the dangers threatening this divine flame, especially when it is "swept into mud and dust by the turbulent wind of anti-Christian or non-Christian spirit. You must feed it, enliven it, uplift it, and spread it." It must serve as a comfort to all suffering. It must become a source of impulse to active faith and social charity. As Christ said : "What you have done unto the least of these My brethren, so also you have done unto Me."

NEWS, NOTES AND TEXTS FROM ALL PARTS

CANADA **The French Canadians**

Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, addressing the Canadian Club recently, appealed for national unity. "You would perhaps wish to know my views on our beloved country's future. May I repeat what I said publicly not very long ago. I was led to speak on the subject because there were rumours, outside of the Province of Quebec, that the French-Canadians, who composed the overwhelming majority of the province, were contemplating the establishment of a separate State in their province, and the dominant influence of the separatist movement was the Catholic Church under the leadership of the Cardinal Archbishop of Quebec. Not much notice was taken in Quebec of this mischievous gossip. No responsible person attached undue importance to it, but, unfortunately, it seemed to have aroused such suspicions in the minds of some English-speaking Canadians, that I availed myself of a fitting occasion to put an end to such ridiculous rumours. Addressing a large Catholic and Protestant gathering, I said : 'Never did I wish that the Province of Quebec should become either a clerical or a Fascist State. The Church in no way admits that patriotism should be equated with the love of isolation, that it should be confined to one village, town or province ; no, it should extend to the whole of Canada and should be accompanied by a vivid feeling of loyalty to our sovereign King, George VI.'

The Church and the Empire

Later in the same address, Cardinal Villeneuve said : "The magnificent example of courage set by the British people has been an inspiration to us and has stirred the patriotic spirit of every member of the nations of the British Empire. The Commonwealth of Nations is not a mere concourse of people having among themselves relations more or less intimate, or a community of material interests. It is much more than that, it is an association of free nations united together, not compulsorily, but because they all share substantially the same ideals of social and international justice, honour and human dignity. And for that reason it has to be defended at all costs, even the cost of blood, under the leadership of those constitutionally presiding over its fortunes. There is far down within us all something deeper than personal interests, than personal kinships, than party feeling ; it is the need and the will to be of service to our country, and that will is rightly termed patriotism. The greatest thinkers of Rome and Greece, as Aristotle, the prince of ancient philosophers, considered patriotism the highest of the natural virtues, and the religion of Christ exalts the pagan ideal and makes of patriotism a positive law. There is no perfect Christian who is not also a perfect patriot. In the light of this teaching, patriotism is seen in its religious character. Family interests, class interests, and the material good of the individual take their place in the scale of values below the ideal of patriotism, for that ideal is righteousness, and righteousness not only in personal, but also in national matters and national honour.

"Men's minds are disturbed so long as the guilty party remains unpunished and outraged justice unavenged. No one can wish for peace without desiring that its destroyer shall be forced to yield to the inalterable edicts of justice and truth and pay the penalty for his crime. . . .

"I cannot refrain from drawing your attention to a very important matter. The Germans work underground in the countries they seek to conquer, including our own. They started their nefarious work long before war broke out, by establishing friendly contacts with people of every class and condition, and carefully concealed the purpose of their friendly attitude. Their object was to make a close study of the different parties, of their aims and mentality. In bilingual countries, for instance, they will pose as the friend of the race they wish to antagonize against the other, and cleverly drive a wedge to keep the races apart by spreading false and acrimonious reports which may find their way into the Press, and are calculated to embitter the relations between the two races. Let us do all we can to preserve our country against the danger of such fifth-column propaganda. . . ."

FRANCE **Religion in the Schools**

We described in our issues of April 5th and 19th how the new Minister of National Education, M. Carcopino, who succeeded M. J. Chevalier on February 24th, reversed his predecessor's policy by substituting in the educational

programme for the name of God the words "spiritual values" and "Christian civilization," and decided that religion would not be taught in school, but could be taught on the usual free afternoons of Thursdays, explained his decision as follows :—

"I have obeyed very simple motives. Most of our teachers are not qualified to teach the lessons that are claimed ; even those who believe and carry their beliefs into practice are not trained to develop in their classes a teaching of non-confessional theology, which, however desirable, would require a philosophical culture we have no right to expect from them, and which, moreover, would risk to produce as many variations as there are schools.

"As to those who do not believe and whose right not to believe conditions other teachers' right to believe, they could not, without self-deception, but omit this part of their curriculum. It is better not to speak of God than to say the wrong things, and it would be the wrong thing for a Christian, who loves his Saviour in his heart of hearts, to speak of Him in terms of a vague religiosity and of an abstract and inconsistent deism."

The Civil Code

Writing in *France Catholique*, M. Le Cour-Grandmaison denounces the evil effects the civil code has had on the French family. " In the course of one century France has lost even the notion of the family, which nowadays only lasts one generation. Once the parents are dead and the patrimony had been divided, the children are scattered, the only ties left being their affection : legally, they are strangers to each other. If one of them falls on evil days, he has no right to appeal for assistance to his brothers or sisters, and the State must step in to help him out. Thus understood, the family is a migratory society, whose home seldom shelters more than one generation.

"Such was not always the case. Laws and customs once concurred to make the family a permanent institution, and the home, the shelter of succeeding generations. The patrimony and the influence over the family transmitted to a single heir, was none the less profitable to the other members. The heir's task, far from being a gratuitous privilege, included the discharge of the family's heavy obligations : he inherited the father's responsibilities in the maintenance of the property, the workshop, the firm, the support of his brothers and sisters by starting them in life and helping them in case of failure. Under such a regime, the home was a permanent family centre, which survived generations and has left us, in certain French regions, families that remained attached to their fields for centuries. Under the present regime, family-building starts anew at every generation, whereas under the joint-family system each generation increases the material and moral patrimony of the family.

"In the former case, the nation, like a pile of loose sand, is made up of detached grains without any cohesion—individuals ; in the second case, it is composed of family *blocs*, which with their inherent stability can easily be cemented together. It is evident that the second type is socially and morally more vigorous and fruitful than the first : the decline of the French birth rate is in proportion to the progress of the unstable family."

In this connection, it was announced last week in Vichy that 1940 saw a marked improvement in the French birth-rate. There were 151,338 births in the first quarter of the year, as compared with 139,000 in the first quarter of 1939.

GERMANY — **Further Suppressions**

It is learned that the celebrated Benedictine Monastery of St. Odile in Upper Bavaria has been closed and suppressed by the German Government. The monastery was at the same time the mother house of the affiliated Society of St. Benedict for the Foreign Missions, founded in 1884 by a monk of the Beuron Abbey, which developed so rapidly that in 1935 it numbered six abbeys, three apostolic vicariates, four colleges, and over a thousand religious. The present Superior of St. Odile is Mgr. C. Schmid, who was forced to take refuge in another monastery whilst his community found shelter with parents and friends.

A month previous to this, the mother house of the Society of the Divine Word at Steyl, Ruremond, in Holland, was confiscated, although the institution was on Dutch territory. This Society, founded in 1875, numbers ten apostolic vicariates in the foreign missions, and over three thousand members.

A "decree for the protection of religious freedom," as it is called, but in reality calculated to facilitate apostasies, has been promulgated in Danzig. It forbids Catholic clergy under the severest penalties to denounce in the pulpit or anywhere else those who have left the Church. The same decree applies in Austria.

HOLLAND — **Religious Conditions**

A long article in *La Liberté*, of Fribourg, describes conditions in Holland, and this is what it says about the religious position : "So far, the occupying Power has not interfered with the spiritual autonomy of its ministers, except in the field of education, where it has taken measures obviously aimed at 'political Catholicism.' For instance, a decree of February 23rd issued the ruling that all ecclesiastics, regular or secular, who are at the head of educational establishments, must be replaced by laymen. Another decree reduces the salary of all religious of the teaching profession : the sum thus saved will be earmarked for the placing of 2,200 lay teachers. This piece of propaganda is of course intended to kill two birds with one stone.

"What is remarkable at this moment is the increasing number of appeals for a better understanding between Catholics and Protestants. One particular article by a young Catholic priest, the Abbé Thyssen, has met with enthusiastic response in the Protestant Press, including even the ultra-Calvinistic *Haagsche Post*. The Reunion movement has become an absorbing topic on both sides, and various places have organized meetings between the two denominations on general topics of mutual interest. As Father Thyssen says in his article : 'That there be dogmatic differences between Catholics and Protestants is perfectly understandable, but is that a reason why there should exist hostility, ill-feeling, suspicion, unfriendliness over points of a religion, which at any rate orders us both to love each other and be mutually helpful ? Can we not differ on grace, and yet observe the more important law of charity, which besides is common to both of us, and far from offering any ground for discussion and altercation, binds us together ? Can we not differ on Scripture, without calling each other names, which Scripture, however we interpret it, threatens with Hell fire ? We are all Christians, and we are all Dutch, two ties that should be strong enough to bind us together for our common interests, imperilled as they have never been before. The north may be Protestant and the north Catholic, but both are Holland, and both are Christianity. It is certainly regrettable that they should differ on half a dozen dogmas ; but even so, it is still possible to wear the common badge of charity and rouse the interest of outsiders : "See how they love each other." Then why not try ?' "

ITALY — **Church and State**

The Russian Press publishes an article on the position of the Church in Italy, written by an Italian atheist. This article states among other things that the war has made the relations between Italy and the Vatican perceptibly worse, because the Vatican never approved of Italy entering the war on the side of Germany. The appointment of Signor Attolico as Italian Ambassador to the Vatican has not yet made any real difference to their relations, for the Vatican remains antagonistic to Germany and National Socialism. The Italian Government is perfectly aware of this, but prefers to say nothing for the time being, both as a matter of policy and because it has its hands full with other things. It was hoped that the gifts of the German Government to the Spanish clergy would induce the Vatican to modify its attitude, but it has done nothing of the sort. As long as Germany does not modify its own attitude towards the German Catholics, the Vatican will remain frigidly silent on Italy's incompatible alliance, and refrain from all comments on her successes, if any. The policy of Fascism towards the Vatican will not, however, undergo any change unless the Church openly states herself to be in opposition to Mussolini. This the Church will not do, as it never pays her to be a nuisance ; but the fact that no patriotic compliment ever issues from the Vatican rankles in every aggressive Fascist breast, and is not likely ever to be forgiven. Up to now both sides have carefully avoided any clash, but it is expecting too much from the nerves of either side to think that should the war last a long time a conflict will be avoidable.

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LITHUANIA **Religious Conditions**

We read in *La Liberté* of Fribourg, Switzerland : "Religious persecution is intensifying in Lithuania. Numbers of priests have been arrested or disappear after nocturnal visits, so that parishioners are at a loss where to turn to set their pastors free. Some are in prison, others are deported, or even shot, like the Abbé Susinskas. All dioceses are afflicted, and their Bishops are liable to arrest and held responsible for the alleged misdeeds of their priests. The Bolshevists' only grievance seems to be the ever-increasing fervour of the faithful, who in afflictions common to the whole Lithuanian people, take refuge in churches to ask Heaven for the end of the Red barbarianism.

"An eye-witness tells of the following scene : The Abbé Didziokas, of the Panevezys parish, loved by the parishioners and popular among the students, preached a sermon on February 16th, the anniversary day of Lithuanian independence, that deeply moved the congregation. The church was packed, and everybody went to communion. In the evening of February 18th, after the office, the Abbé, followed by the sacristan, left the church and proceeded to the presbytery, when he was assaulted by four Jews, Muscovite agents. The sacristan ran for help, but in vain, for the Abbé Didziokas had disappeared. The news of the arrest was soon all over the parish, and a crowd of some 1,500 people surrounded the Police Station in the early hours of the morning, clamouring for their priest. The crowd broke into the station looking for the priest, but to no purpose. Some started a hymn, others kept on shouting : 'Release our priest.' The police only succeeded in dispersing the crowd towards the evening, after advising them to collect a thousand signatures within twenty-four hours. 2,000 signatures were collected in less than that time, but the priest was not released. Since that day a period of arrests has started for the town of Panevezys, a dozen persons, including children of twelve, disappearing every day."

"Other eye-witnesses report how the Abbé Raguvele was tied to a sledge by the Bolshevists and driven to an unknown prison."

POLAND **No Religious Holidays**

A German edict forbade the observance of Ascension Day as a holiday in Poland, and decreed that the feast of Corpus Christi must be similarly ignored. Both these days must be regarded as "normal week-days," and the feasts "postponed to the nearest Sundays."

SPAIN **An English Gift**

On May 27th, the feast of St. Bede the Venerable, Mass was celebrated for the first time in the chapel of the Immaculate Conception, in Madrid Cathedral. This chapel has been built with funds subscribed by the Catholic Union of Great Britain, and supplemented by the British Council. It is the first chapel to be restored since the partial destruction of the Cathedral during the Civil War.

Among those present at the Mass were Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Ambassador, Professor Walter Starkie, Director of the British Institute in Madrid, and three Canons of the Madrid Chapter. The celebrant of the Mass was Father Mulrean, chaplain to the British Institute. The altar was decorated with lilies, red carnations, and cornflowers, representing the British colours.

A Notable Convert

One of the leaders in the religious revival in Madrid is Father Manuel Garcia Morente. Before the Civil War, as Professor Garcia Morente, Dean of the Faculty of Letters in Madrid University, he was one of the leaders in the fight against religion. At that time his lectures were very anti-Catholic in tone, and he could not stand the presence of a priest in his classrooms. As secretary of the Free Institution of Education, he aided in the suppression of the Jesuits and the prohibition of the employment of religious as teachers. His aim and that of his colleagues was the complete suppression of religion in the schools of Spain.

Convinced at last of the evil he had done, and of the need to repair the scandal he had given, Professor Garcia Morente went to Bishop Garay, of Madrid, for instruction, was received into the Church, and ordained after his studies for the priesthood. At his first Mass, the Minister of Education and many members of the Madrid University Faculty received communion from his hands. Today Father Morente is back at the university as professor of ethics.

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BURNS OATES

BOOKS OF THE WEEK

THROUGH THE WASTE LANDS

I Am Persuaded. By JULIAN DUGUID. Cape. 10s. 6d.

This book tells the story of an author and explorer's loss and recovery of religious faith. His recovered faith—an extremely personal and undogmatic Christianity—is very far from the fullness of Catholic truth; nevertheless the truth he holds has been grasped by a deep and vivid personal experience and is defended against the scepticism of his past by able arguments. Such living insights into particular aspects of the truth may help us to appreciate those aspects better which we can place in their full context of Catholic truth.

The most unsatisfactory feature of the book is a complacent ignorance of Catholic theology. Mr. Duguid supposes that the unsystematic and unscientific notions of religion picked up at English schools are the traditional faith of Christendom. He therefore seriously believes that by a personal God, Christianity means a magnified man, that it is a discovery of his new theology that God's life is an eternal Now, that He does not think as we do and that creatures represent His ideas. He appears to have no notion of the *via negativa*, of the Christian "agnosticism" of Denys, the Cloud of Unknowing and St. John of the Cross, or of Nicholas of Cusa's *Docta ignorantia*. When he speaks of our immersion in the blaze of a timeless now, is he unaware of Boethius' classical definition of the Divine eternity? Never has any man realized more perfectly than Mr. Duguid Chesterton's parable of the man who lands at Brighton and thinks he has discovered a new continent. Richard Jefferies made the same mistake in *The Story of My Heart*.

Catholics, he informs us, are forbidden to think about religion, to speculate. How well St. Augustine and St. Thomas obeyed this ban on thinking. He is ignorant that the deepest and subtlest theological speculation has been Catholic. Nor may Catholics believe in evolution. The reviewer, who accepts it, has always considered himself a Catholic. But Mr. Duguid tells him he was mistaken. Until the condemnation of Origenism in the sixth century, reincarnation was a doctrine of the Church. The Immaculate Conception means Our Lord's conception by a Virgin. And the use of wafer bread is the innovation of the modern age with its affection for synthetic food. When he discusses spiritualism, Mr. Duguid takes pains to arrive at a just estimate. The evidence is weighed scientifically and full attention is given to detail. But the historic religion of Christendom, the creed of millions, requires no study. You are entitled to lay down the law about it without bothering about evidence.

Magic and primitive religion were almost inextricably interwoven. This book suggests that religion is once more in danger of being accompanied by magic. It is a magic indeed that is scientific and rationally justifiable, being the manipulation of the subconscious, possibly also subhuman, vital or inanimate energies by psychological processes. But it shares with the older magic the common feature that the force employed is not regarded as superior to its would-be employer, but as his servant who must obey his will if the right technique is employed. Mr. Duguid, it is true, distinguishes this magic, fitly called Aladdin's lamp, from religion. He terms it incorrectly a non-religious form of prayer. But if it is employed in the unselfish service of our neighbour, he holds that the motive makes it religious. It may make it moral but not religious. The religious attitude is essentially one of supplication to a Power higher than man, that may grant or withhold his request at will. As we have seen, Mr. Duguid also adopts this religious attitude, but he does not draw any clear line of demarcation. There is a distinct danger that hypnotic "Magic" may contaminate religion in the future.

It is not true that "To all believers at one time or another comes an experience of the living Christ which merges their faith into a knowing." This is surely a modern version of the Evangelical doctrine that every true Christian experiences conversion.

As we might have expected in an age in which life and force is so predominant in men's thought and valuation, it is as a spiritual Power that Mr. Duguid has become aware of God and has yielded himself to Him. He does not so much as mention the intellectual proofs of theism. We are left uncertain whether the author clearly distinguishes God from creatures, His Divine life from created life and energy. He says we are thoughts in God's mind, "but ends of His Energy." Are we necessary manifestations of God, internal termini of His Energy? Or are we His free creations? That is to say, it is not clear whether Mr. Duguid is a theist or a pantheist. To draw the intellectual frontier is a delicate operation of thought, and Mr. Duguid is too scornful of the finer shades of philosophical thinking to draw it.

Nor does Mr. Duguid make it very plain whether the guidance and the spiritual healings which he recognizes as facts are the work of the subject's subconscious self alone—the "Helper" he calls it—or of God. Sometimes he speaks as though the Helper were the agent of these things. But he also says "God can affect us physically" and speaks of awed belief in God as the most favourable disposition for a cure. He probably thinks of God as working through the subconscious, the "helper" that is open to His action. If so, we agree with him.

On the other hand he fails to distinguish sufficiently between the instinctive and vital life below reason which is largely subconscious, and the deep life of the central spirit which is above it. Moreover, true in this to the Protestant emphasis on feeling, he supposes that it is by the emotions that we experience God rather than by the root of the will as Catholic mysticism teaches. The mistake is easy because an emotional colour normally invests this central operation of the will.

For all these insufficiencies Mr, Duguid has passed through the Waste Lands of a scepticism rejoicing that religion had been finally exploded—he describes it very well (p. 163)—to religious faith. And he is convinced that many of his contemporaries have taken or will shortly take the same path. "The road is no longer blocked by the tyranny of the intellectuals" (more correctly of a superficial rationalism). "Science itself is inclining towards a spiritual reading of life. The mental inhabitants of Bloomsbury, that queer twilight of the soul, have had their day of sneering. . . . In the harsh glare of war they made room for better men."

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE

Britain and France. By CATHERINE GAVIN. Cape. 10s. 6d.

There has, as is natural enough, been a good deal of talk about the deficiencies in British policy which led up to the present catastrophe. But such talk tends to be either generalized discussion of the political effects of capitalism, or else a particular investigation of our policy since 1918. It is interesting to go back to the beginning of the century and decide whether the reasons for the reversal of a traditional foreign policy at the beginning of this century were valid. As such a study, Miss Gavin's book is of peculiar interest.

We are often told a little vaguely that Britain's traditional policy has been one of the maintenance of the balance of power on the Continent. That is a half truth. Our policy, though in a way it could always be described by this formula, has really changed with the centuries. In the sixteenth century we were primarily concerned to preserve our own freedom against the stronger, or at least apparently stronger, Powers of Spain and France. In the seventeenth century both under Cromwell and under Charles II our policy was not a policy of balance of power because we sided with France, which was by then the strongest Power on the Continent. From William III to Napoleon we pursued indeed a policy of opposition to France, but it was not primarily to preserve the freedom of this island that we did so. England's freedom was only threatened on a few particular occasions, and it is arguable that France would not have threatened it even then, had we shown ourselves prepared to keep out of Continental quarrels. But we clashed with French ambitions on the European Continent because our interests abroad clashed with French interests in America and India. Our policy was, as Chatham put it, to win Canada on the banks of the Elbe. With the nineteenth century we retired into a policy of isolation, and if a balance of a sort was preserved on the Continent, it was preserved without our assistance, and because the nations there were of a strength to balance against one

another, and it was only at its close, when Lord Lansdowne was at the Foreign Office, that we sought security first in an alliance with Japan and then in the Entente Cordiale.

The sub-title of Miss Gavin's book, "The Entente Cordiale," is a more accurate description of its contents than the title *Britain and France*, for it deals with Anglo-French relations only since the accession of *Le Roi Charmeur*, Edward VII, and the Lansdowne-Cambon days. Viscount Esher has told us that "it is ridiculous to suppose, as some do, that the King initiated or planned the *Entente* between Great Britain and France. He was too keenly alive to the functions of a constitutional sovereign." But it is reasonably certain that it was on his personal decision alone that the historic visit to Paris was made in April 1903, and it is equally certain that that visit alone made the *Entente* possible. All the statesmanship of Delcassé could not have made the French accept the Treaties of 1904 had the King not prepared the way for them. The two great turning-points in the history of Anglo-French relations were the coming of Lord Lansdowne to the Foreign Office in place of that most splendid of isolationists, Lord Salisbury, and the accident which made it impossible for King Edward to meet the French President Loubert in Algiers as had been intended, and made him decide to go to Paris instead. Miss Gavin, while perfectly aware of Lord Esher's *caveat*, throughout attributes the greatest possible importance to the personal influence of the King.

Just as our conflicts with the French in the eighteenth century had little to do with continental policies, but were primarily the conflicts of rival Imperialisms, so the *Entente* of 1904 was primarily a colonial settlement, based on French recognition of British influence in Egypt, and British recognition of French influence in Morocco. Miss Gavin leads us very competently through all the intricacies of these matters, and thence onwards to 1914. On the eve of the Great War she ends her detailed narrative, and the history of Anglo-French relations from then until today is compressed into the last sixth of her book. Her writing is very free from any illusions that might have crept into it had it been done before last year's débâcle. She believes that never from 1904 until 1940 was the *Entente* really *Cordiale*, and does not conceal any of the tensions and crises to which it was subjected. Nevertheless, she concludes that "A strong and Liberal France is essential to Europe, and the fruits of a thousand years of French culture, which cannot be destroyed by a few months of the new barbarism, are essential to Britain's intellectual life."

One paragraph in her book gives a particularly sharp reminder of the decline of France during the forty years that have ended in the present lamentable policy of "collaboration" with *l'Allemagne éternelle*. As the Boer War drew to its close, von Hatzfeldt was doing his best to take the unique opportunity it presented for a Franco-German *Entente*. "But von Bülow, at his desk in Berlin, knew that it could not be done. Britain had come out of the war badly . . . her very name was detestable to France. But 'Fashoda,' noted his observant pen, 'could not outweigh Sedan.' As long as Alsace-Lorraine was in the hands of Germany, France could have but one permanent enemy."

SHORTER NOTICES

The Sunday Epistles and Gospels. By the Rt. Rev. Mgr. P. Boylan. Dublin : Browne and Nolan. Two volumes : 7s. 6d. each.

These volumes, intended for the clergy, contain a translation from the original Greek, an exegetical commentary, and hints for preachers. The translation is excellent, and we have few criticisms to make. All, however, will not be convinced that the *Pleonexia* which St. Paul, in the Epistle for the Third Sunday in Lent, says must not be mentioned among Christians, is avarice rather than impurity as Fr. Rickaby understood it. For as he truly pointed out, avarice or fraud has never been regarded as a sinful topic of conversation. Most translations have agreed with Fr. Rickaby.

Mgr. Boylan's exegetical commentary is also most valuable, and should be of the greatest service to the clergy in studying the liturgical lessons for preaching. But we cannot give the same praise to the hints for preachers. They contain nothing that any intelligent person could not himself discover from the Epistle or Gospel as translated and explained by Mgr.

"Come to Me all ye . . ."

and other Poems

by

JACK GILBEY

"Some time ago Mr. Jack Gilbey gave us another slender and delightfully produced book of poems entitled *In Loving Memory*, and now his publishers have added to our pleasure by issuing this new selection. They are to be congratulated on the format, paper and typography, for in these days these considerations are apt to be unavoidably overlooked, since paper itself is not generally what it was.

"The poems themselves reveal the author as a sensitive writer and one touched by a great faith. They are, as they should be, simple and sincere, and what better armour has a poet than simplicity and sincerity? In these days of trial and stress, of a shaking of faith in some men, and of understandable bewilderment in the minds of many, it is a happy augury that writers like Mr. Gilbey stand firm in spite of national and personal griefs. They are not to be side-tracked by the ebb and flow of the day, for their minds are fixed on a spiritual ideal which, it would seem, nothing can shatter."

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Boylan. If these hints had been omitted, and the translations and exegetical commentaries published in a single volume for half the price of the present two, nothing of value would have been lost, and an extremely useful work would have been made more widely accessible. Not only is the utmost meaning extracted with the scholar's feeling for fine shades of language, but the environment and the circumstances of each Gospel episode are made clear.

The Man of the Mountain. By ZORA HURSTON. Dent. 8s. 6d.

Miss Zora Hurston tells once again the familiar story of Moses. The writer is a negress and approaches her subject from the negro point of view. Her idiom is fresh, direct, and—in this context—unfamiliar. The Nile is "a great big river" and the infant Moses "a little bitty thing" fearfully confided to it by an anxious mother. Pharaoh, in treating the Hebrews as an exploited race whose situation is clearly paralleled by that of the American negroes, "brags that him and the Egyptian nation is eating high on the hog now." Writing of this kind does not necessarily imply an unsophisticated outlook. Miss Hurston's feeling for the idiom natural to her race is clearly backed by a good deal of observant study, and there is plenty of shrewdness beneath the apparent simplicity of her conception. Even those who are inclined to distrust books of this kind will find sufficient detachment and humour to make it decidedly worth reading.

Miss Hurston, however, has done more than transcribe an old story in terms that are naïvely contemporary. She has succeeded in presenting the career of Moses from a standpoint that is novel and, from the literary point of view, impressive. In the eyes of the negroes Moses is the great "voodoo man" of the Bible, the wielder of magic powers and an extraordinary worker of miracles. The "mighty hand" and "the great terror which Moses showed in the sight of all Israel" would probably embarrass a modern European writer, who would prefer to concentrate upon moral teaching or racial significance; they fascinate Miss Hurston, who moves easily in the borderline between Christian beliefs and primitive memories, and inspire her best pages. The ten plagues are described with a direct simplicity that conveys a remarkable impression of power: "Egypt knew darkness, living, crawling darkness that had a life of its own. It had body like the wind and heaved in motion like the sea." "Egypt will die in this coldness that has leaked out of the darkness." "Outside, the paths and pavements were full of soft, swift feet fleeing into Goshen with its listening ears."

The physical reality of miracle is something which even those who give it intellectual assent find it difficult to appreciate; Miss Hurston, by feeling it so clearly and conveying it with such success, has contrived to enrich our experience.

A Christian Year Book. S. C. M. Press. 2s. 6d.

This work of reference is described by its editors as "an outcome, a reflection and a servant" of the Oecumenical Christian movement that inspired the series of conferences at Madras, Oxford, Edinburgh, and Amsterdam, and to which one of its principal sections is devoted. "We are glad," they continue, "to be able to include articles on the Roman Catholic Church, written by Roman Catholics, as well as a number of allusions to its work in different parts of the world, but it will be understood that the general standpoint of the book is that of the non-Roman Churches."

The leading Catholic contributor is Fr. Philip Hughes, who makes a masterly survey of the organization, doctrines, and liturgy of the Catholic Church in something under four thousand words. Besides a similarly brief statement of "the Beliefs, Organization, and Origins" of every Christian denomination represented in Great Britain, there is much statistical and other information, which varies considerably in value.

Dom Bede Winslow, the Editor of *The Eastern Churches Quarterly*, writes: "Owing to enemy action much of our stock has been lost, including our up-to-date subscription list. We should be grateful if old, as well as new, subscribers would send in their subscriptions and addresses to Geo. E. J. Coldwell, 17 Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1. The January-April issue is now ready, price 2s., and may be obtained from Mr. Coldwell."

MEN AND MOVEMENTS

By CHRISTOPHER HOLLIS

CANADA

Canada has become a very important country. When this war ends there are but two alternatives before the world. Either civilization will be preserved in an Anglo-American hegemony or, if that should fail, then all will collapse into chaos. It is not a question whether we like this or not. It is not a question whether either the English or the Americans are wholly worthy to be the standard-bearers of civilization. It is simply a question what is going to happen. On the continent of Europe there are the Nazis, the Bolsheviks and little else. Both the Nazis and the Bolsheviks are of their nature the apostles of disruption and the enemies of civilization. As Mr. MacCormac very truly says in his book,* "As things are, Britain is fighting a losing fight even if she is winning this war. Nothing but an overwhelming defeat could be more embarrassing to her than a shattering victory. She would not know what to do with the pieces. An atomized Europe might end Hitler, but it would not stop Stalin. A strong Germany under Conservative leadership might stop Stalin but could not long be denied hegemony over Europe."

Ergo, all, whether we like or not, rests with England and America, and again, whether we like it or not, there is a certain strain and lack of comprehension in the personal relations of Englishmen and Americans. The frequency with which this is denied by professional politicians is the best proof of its existence. On both sides there is a somewhat baffling degree of insensitiveness to the other's susceptibilities. The Americans sometimes talk a little glibly of plans for union after the war—which is rather as if a man, standing on the river bank, were to cry to his friend struggling in the water, "If you should chance to get back to land, I should be very pleased if you would come to tea with me." On the other hand there is something very unconvincing in the English denials of the well-founded American belief that most Englishmen care very little what Americans think about them so long as things are going well and only become sensitive to American opinion in the day of tribulation when they want American help. On that day they complain only too frequently if the Americans do not look on every problem from an entirely British point of view.

So there are plenty of faults on both sides and a great deal still to be done before any real Anglo-American union is consummated. The more desirable that union, the more necessary it is frankly to confess to the differences and the faults. Who is to be the match-maker? It is surely clear that here is the Providential role of the Canadians—the Canadians, the neighbours of the Americans, the senior British Dominion, who in the years before the war distinguished themselves within the Empire by playing a somewhat isolationist game and who yet, when the war came, have joined in it from the first and have had a considerable share in shaping the changes of opinion of their great neighbour.

Mr. MacCormac, a very distinguished Canadian journalist, has written this most fascinating book on this theme. He is clearly no very warm admirer of Mr. Mackenzie King and thinks that Mr. King's ultra-timorous refusal to undertake any commitments in the years before the war—even indeed, so far as he could prevent it, to permit any discussion in Canada of questions of foreign policy—had no effect other than that of robbing Canada of all influence in world affairs, while in spite of it Canada was not able to keep out of the war for a week when war came. Whether this criticism is a just one is for Canadians to decide, but it is at least refreshing to find that even in the newest countries journalists

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* *Canada : America's Problem.* By JOHN MACCORMAC. Cape. 10s. 6d.

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denounce politicians as dodderers. Whether or not Mr. Mackenzie King's very negative policy was the right one for Canada in the years before the war, it is very certain that it is not a policy which Canada will tolerate in the future. Whatever other people may think about it, Canada will insist in one form or another on an Anglo-American Union. I do not know whether that was what Mr. Churchill meant when he said that we could not stop the growing *rapprochement* between England and America even if we wanted to, but it is certain that the price of a rebuff to such a process would be the disruption of the Empire.

That being so, it is indeed surprising how very little interest is taken on the Continent of Europe, and indeed even in this country, in the affairs of Canada, in its strength and in its weakness. Mr. MacCormac brings out very well one point which is of primary importance for the especial role to which providence seems to have destined the country. It is that, though politically the North American Continent is divided north and south between Canada and the United States, culturally it is divided east and west. The link of the maritime provinces is with New England, of Ontario with Michigan, of Manitoba and the Prairie Provinces with the Middle West and to some extent of British Columbia (though British Columbia is, it is true, to a large extent *sui generis*) with the Far West. Quebec also is most obviously *sui generis*. The political frontier is to a very small extent a cultural frontier. That being so, it is indeed surprising to what a great extent the Canadians have preferred British to American political forms and how ready they have been to follow a British lead in foreign policy, so long of course as that lead was not against the United States. Canada is obviously the chief among many reasons which makes a British defiance of the United States an impossibility.

In these respects Canada is ideally suited to the role to which she is destined. What are the obstacles to her accomplishment of it? Mr. MacCormac very frankly states a major obstacle, which comes best indeed from a Canadian pen but which it is important in any event most frankly to understand. The profession of the democratic creed in a new country carries with it certain social consequences, many of which are good, but politically democracy in a sparsely populated, rapidly developing country, without aristocratic traditions, is unlikely to be free from hypocrisy. Democracy never really works except in an aristocratic country, and the result of the lack of aristocratic tradition in Canada is that the Government is pretty frankly bought. Mr. MacCormac gives illuminating statistics of the concentration of wealth in that country and of the impossibility of imposing any political programme that is contrary to the desire of accumulated wealth; 62 per cent of the country's industrial production comes from 3.2 per cent of its plants. The country is not large enough to manufacture such public opinion against plutocracy as Mr. Roosevelt has been able to collect in the United States. In Canada there are two political parties—both of them are Conservative, and the Liberals, as is the general rule, are the more Conservative.

It is financial corruption and the overweening power of great wealth which, as its best friends best know, is the greatest evil of Canadian life. It is true that, though the country possesses no aristocracy, it yet possesses among the French a population most deeply wedded to tradition, and the enemy of the evils of progress. The French Canadians are indeed among the most remarkable peoples in the world, and their stabilizing and Conservative influence in general must render an immense service to the whole of North American society, to which with their enormous birth-rate they contribute with every year an increasing proportion. But unfortunately it cannot in all honesty be pretended that those of them who go into politics are in any way notable in contrast to their English speaking fellow-citizens for their abstention from corruption.

We in this country perhaps tend a little bit too much to take for granted the friendship of our friends. For twenty years the world canted about international altruism and collective security. In the event it was discovered that there were in all the world but four nations that were prepared to fight for truth and justice, though they were not immediately menaced. Their names were Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. This is a reflection which may make Imperialists proud and internationalists meditative.

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TALKING AT RANDOM

Alsatia

I wandered the other day among the destruction in the streets between Fleet Street and the Embankment, reflecting on the extraordinary history of the Whitefriars area, when it was known as Alsatia, being a no man's land where no writ ran. This was one of the most extraordinary links with Catholic London. In the time of the Carmelites there was a much-utilized right of sanctuary, and the people did not at all see why the sanctuary rights should not go on, even if the friars had been banished. So the tough characters of Elizabethan and Jacobean England continued to congregate there, and to repel by force the officers of the law; and many "wanted" men lived out their lives in the neighbourhood. One of the Jacobean dramatists, but I forget which, wrote a play called "The Squire of Alsatia," all about it. There was a pleasing impudence in it all going on next door to the Inns of Court.

Not So Spontaneous

Fleet Street in Charles II's time used to witness great anti-Popery processions. One minor and good result of the new method of Dr. Goebbels and his like will be, I believe, a greater readiness to read history with a seeptical eye for all popular demonstrations, and with a realization that processions and mobs have generally had astute managers behind them, providing the slogans and the funds. Much has now been elucidated about events like the march of the women on Versailles in October 1789, and the whole Titus Oates affair, but it is slow in getting embodied into popular accounts.

Wilde at Oxford

The late Abbot Hunter-Blair would have been interested in Mr. A. J. A. Symons' account of Oscar Wilde at Oxford, to which I alluded last week, for he was at Magdalen with Wilde, became close friends, and has left his impressions on record in a paper he wrote for the short-lived Catholic Poetry Society. Hunter-Blair became a Catholic in 1875, and Wilde was greatly interested in the conversion, showing "how deep, and I am sure genuine was his own sympathy with Catholicism and how much moved he was by my having taken the step which I did." Hunter-Blair used to take him to various occasions, like Ullathorne or Manning preaching in Oxford, and a German Jesuit priest in charge of the old union of St. Clements met Wilde and said "there will come some day, I am convinced, a crisis in his life when he will turn to the Ark of Peter as his only refuge. Till then we can only pray." 1876 was the high-water mark of Wilde's early interest. His friend Hunter-Blair went down in that year, and Mr. Symons has now told the story of the turn-away in 1877.

When he won the Newdigate in 1877, Wilde said to Hunter-Blair, who remonstrated that a certain passage about Victor Emmanuel and Pius IX was quite insincere, "Don't be angry, you must know that I should never, never have won the Newdigate if I had taken the Pope's side against the King's."

Hugh Walpole

Hugh Walpole was rather a curious choice of the Hearst Press, who made him, with Hilaire Belloc and Alfred Noyes, their team of English special writers for the Pope's coronation. He had, I remember, great difficulty in sending off a thousand words day after day in the intervals, but he entered thoroughly into the event, and I see him now, standing on a bench in St. Peter's to get a better view, with the people behind him shouting "Ju, Ju," a cry which he did not connect with himself, or affected not to. He was in 1939 more interested in Catholicism than when I first met him some ten years before, and he told me that his great objection to the Church was that its influence was bad for the English novel. He instanced R. H. Benson and others. For him the novel was almost a religion in itself, and he a high priest, and what seemed to many of us the wholly excessive praise he poured out in reviews of the latest fiction came partly from the idea that if you wrote a novel at all, that showed you knew what it was really worthwhile attempting in life, and must be encouraged to the utmost.

Roofless Southwark

Those of us who stood in the shell of St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, heard some courageous words from the Administrator, recalling that it was just a hundred years since the Cathedral was built, and that it would rise again. For my part, I found myself reminded of an earlier time than 1841. It was just so, with the roofs stripped for the lead, that many a fine Abbey Church must have looked in the later years of Henry VIII, and the bombs had done just the same sort of beheading injuries to the statues and carved stone as iconoclasts did then, and we could clearly envisage how a building becomes a ruin, in how few years.

Weighty Ideas

Last week I reprinted here an arresting advertisement from *America*. There is another one, issued on behalf of the Help the Chaplains Fund of New York, which begins: "400 pounds of ideas about God and religion have already been sent from our office to the boys in the Army, and the Navy . . . but literally, hundreds of thousands of pounds of good literature are required . . . will you help, help, help, to send them more ideas and ideals?" Migne's patrology, which weighs several tons, would be a useful fortification for any camp, as well as being packed with ideas and ideals.

Politeness

Following the lay brother who bows to the telephone, I hear from across the northern border of a very deferential priest. He was heard telephoning to his Bishop, and he began "Is your Grace well?" and showed much preliminary solicitude for the health at the other end. After some minutes, he was heard saying "Is your Grace still well?" This is true concern, born of the knowledge that men are like the grass of the field, and that change is going constantly on in the human frame, and that the telephoner cannot see what sudden changes for the worse may not have occurred. It is more civil to keep on asking.

On Asking

This page is not one for appeals, nor is this an appeal, but I hope the more solvent of my readers will listen to the appeal for the Crusade of Rescue on Sunday night, and doing so will consider not the deficiencies of the pleader, but the excellence of the work.

D.W.

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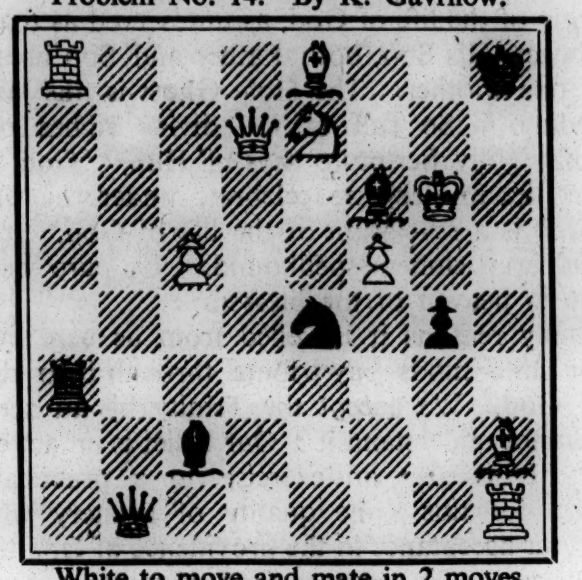
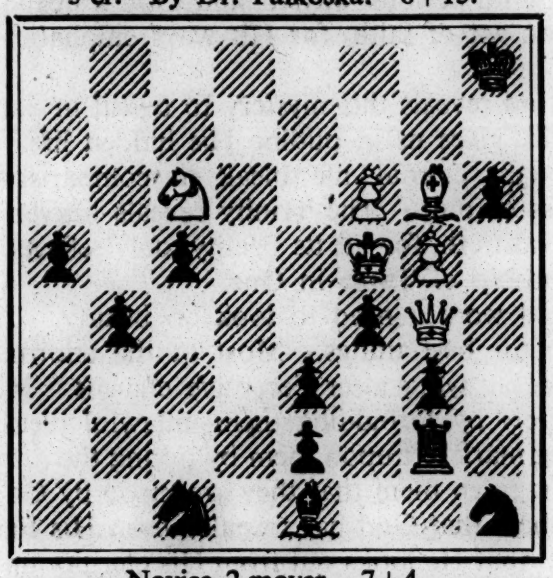
Problem No. 14. By K. Gavrilow.

9/7



White to move and mate in 2 moves.

3-er. By Dr. Palkoska. 6+13.



Novice 2-mover. 7+4.

Solution of No. 13 : Novice. 1 Kt-Kt3 ; 2 BPxKt, Q-Q2 mate. If 1..RPxKt ; 2 P-R4‡. If 1..B any ; 2 Kt-K4‡ If 1..P-K5 ; 2 KtxP mate.
2-er. 1 Kt-R4, PxKt ; 2 P-B4‡. If 1..RxBP ; 2Kt-Kt6‡. If 1..QKt any ; 2 Kt-Kt4‡.
3-er. 1 Q-K8, BxQ ; 2 R-Kt5 dis. ch, K-B6 ; 3 B-Kt4‡. If 1..KtxQ ; 2 R-Kt5, etc.

N.B.—The 2-er Group are required—under penalty of losing points—to do the Novice Problem each week, and the 3-er Group the whole three Problems.

REMARKS. No. 10 : 2-er. "RxR indicates key-move somewhat clearly."—Von W. "Not difficult, the need for guarding B4 and B5 leading to the key."—R.C.M. "Pins and self-blocks very ingenious, but sacrificial key rather obvious."—Dr. K. "Likely to delight Fr. Workman in the Canadian wilds !"—E.K. "Attractive multiple sacrifice with half-pin, but key given away by necessity of providing against RxR ch."—C.A. "Magnificent sacrifices and many good tries."—Dom L.G. "Excellent example of zugzwang."—Dom M.M.

3-er. "The key eludes me in the time available ; we have been burnt to the ground and our new offices blasted in. . . ."—M.L. "Good sacrificial key, followed by entertaining variations ; past midnight and enemy planes buzzing about overhead ! . . ."—L.W.C. "Looks like a scalper !"—Br. B. "A joy to drive K down to the waiting pawns."—F.C.D. "Exceedingly clever sacrifice as Q seems so necessary for mate. I saw it in despair after very much trying elsewhere. Very fine Problem."—Colonel R. "Choice composition throughout."—J.K. "The four mates following KtxQ are amazing, especially Kt-Q2."—Fr. B.

No. 11 : 2-er. "A wily clearance key."—L.W.C. "After a very long search ! But how interesting !"—E.K. "An absorbing study."—A.E.M. "What a lot of near tries !"—Br. G. "Interest centres on the long diagonal protected by Black Q." —E.B. "Fine key and several near tries."—T.E.W.

DOM NICHOLAS KREMER, O.S.B., writes from the Bahamas (date of April 2) :—"I am very glad to notice that Fr. Joseph Martus, S.J., of Weston College, Mass., has joined our *Tablet's* chess ranks. I hope to see many U.S.A. priests led into the fold by his example. Welcome to all such !"

[Fr. Martus is keeping on steadily in spite of postal delays, etc. His latest solution card bears date of April 22 and correct solution of No. 4, 2-er, of current Tourney. Like Dom Nicholas I would particularly welcome entries from clergy (or laity) of the United States.—CH. ED.].

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TRINITY SUNDAY

By The Very Rev. PIUS DOLAN, O.D.C.

LIFE is our dearest earthly treasure; which explains our natural sympathy with living creatures of whatever kind. When therefore we come to meditate on God, will it not help to hold our thoughts if we reflect that He, the very source from which all life comes, is the living God? We love life and He is infinitely alive, therefore infinitely adorable. And as God claims our love and adoration, so He is pleased to unveil His face to us in nature and in mystery.

We know many truths that give us an inkling of the life of God. For example; from nothingness He made the Universe: God spoke and the World began. Creation is one vivid illustration of the vitality that is reserved in God. A word in the mouth of a man can be a strong command or sure direction, but God's word is an almighty deed.

God does infinite things in a simple act. The power of His infinite life He pours into tremendous deeds. And this He does even when He gives His gifts to human beings. But it is in the mystery of the Trinity that we are given a further idea of God.

Our faith teaches us that in the Godhead there are three divine Persons really distinct and in all things equal, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; "The Father is made of none neither created nor begotten; the Son is of the Father alone, not made, nor created but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and the Son; not made nor begotten but proceeding. And in this Trinity, nothing is before or after, nothing is greater or less, but all three Persons co-eternal together and co-equal." (Creed of St. Athanasius.)

First then let us contemplate the Eternal Father as He begets His Son before all ages. In this act of eternal generation, the Father gives the Godhead to His Son. He gathers up infinite life, infinite power, infinite beauty and in one complete surrender gives all of God unto His Son, while He Himself remains unchanged. There is no labour in this great giving, but also there is no reserve. Even as a thought passes from a mind that must express itself in thought, so is the Son of God begotten. What visions of vitality are here revealed to us where the whole of God's being so trembles in His Word, that the Word is God, and the Son of God, a divine Person really distinct from, and equal in all things to, the Father Who utters that eternal Word. God speaks no Second Word; there is no place for it even in the infinite mind of God.

It is this God who has made us to His own image; and we like to find in our humble resemblance to Him a reason for our potent attraction to living in all its noblest and most generous forms. It is not something base in us, we know, that stirs us to deeds of courage. It is not something false that drives us on to high ambitions. We must accomplish great things in order to be true to our nature, if our nature holds a likeness to the living God.

Of course we see our grave responsibility as guardian of our powers. God has trusted us to use them according to His law. We sometimes plunge into the unreality of sin, we sometimes even venture to plead in our own excuse the urge to live. But sin is a counterfeit of life; its end is death, here of all that is best in us, and hereafter death eternal.

The Saints are wise. They also live to achieve. Their ideal is life. Their object is positive, not merely to avoid all ill. Holiness, they hold, is constructive by its nature. It is true the Saints restrain their powers in many things. It is true they empty out much that seems natural in a man. But here again their aim is positive. With the wisdom of God they purify their lives, for Christ has urged them "Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God." To see God, in humble imitation of the Son of God!

Revelation goes on to tell of another surging in the hidden life of God. It seems almost natural to us to expect an act of love. And we plead for our presumption that God has made us like Himself; and we plead, that in us love is a consummation of life, and also a spontaneous reaction to perfect beauty where there is also perfect understanding. Therefore when we are told that the Son of God faithfully reflects the eternal splendours of His Father, we look for love, even if the full glory of divine activity is hidden from us.

Faith instructs us. It tells us that in God love is so wonderfully fulfilled that it is a divine Person. In another outpouring of the life of God, as unreserved as that in which Father begets His Son, both Father and Son breathe Their love for one another. The Holy Ghost is this love of God "proceeding." So full of the divine riches of eternity is He, that Holy Scripture says of Him, "God is Love."

This is the mystery we celebrate under the title of the Trinity. It is a revelation of the life of God. Its wonders have held even sinners spellbound. Its pure vision is the beatitude in heaven of the blessed.

For many reasons it is veiled from us here in mystery. And first finite minds pay tribute through it to the infinite mind of God. We accept the Trinity by an act of faith, for we cannot understand it. Our belief is an act of adoring humility. It is also an exercise in a practical attitude of mind; for this same quality of mystery will present itself for our acceptance in the providence of God that guides our every day. To accept a God of mystery is already to accept His mysterious ways; and God's dealings with us demand an act of faith, for His ways emphatically are not ours.

Then God reveals this mystery to reveal in part His face. The Trinity gives us in outline His hidden life. We might have thought eternal life bleak in comparison with the homeliness of ours. The Trinity reveals heaven an eternal home. Nazareth, for all its beauty, only reflects the perfect companionship of Three in One.

Men and women need to look on beauty. Their hearts are made for best things. Most of the enormities of life come from straying after deceptive charms. Men are not saved merely by forbidding them unlawful pleasures: nor is a lasting mark left upon them by urging them to be perfect men. But teach them that they are made by God for God. Remind them that God has revealed even His Face to smile on them: that He looks out from His eternity upon them to draw them by loving them. Men will do violence to themselves to prove worthy of His care.

Tell them of the eternal Father from whom earthly fathers draw their care for home and little ones. Tell them of the sacrifice of Jesus, the Word of God, Who came to earth as Man for men. Tell them of the Holy Spirit, sent of the Father and of Son, to be the love of God abiding in the hearts of men. This is the surest way to teach men to profit by the ways of God.

BOOKS REQUIRED

There is still a great demand for suitable books to be used in the formation of Catholic libraries for serving men. Donations to make their purchase possible should be sent to Miss K. Fell, Hon. Secretary, Catholic Libraries for H.M. Forces, "Holdfast," Haslemere, Surrey. Those who are prepared to give books should write to her for an address to send them to.

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THE CALENDAR

Sunday, June 8th. THE MOST HOLY TRINITY.

Monday, June 9th. SS. PRIME AND FELICIAN, *Martyrs.* In the Archdiocese of Birmingham and the Dioceses of Argyll and Dunkeld, ST. COLUMBA, *Abbot.* In the Dioceses of Brentwood and Portsmouth, the Translation of ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY, *Bishop and Confessor.*

Tuesday, June 10th. ST. MARGARET, Queen of Scotland, *Widow.*

Wednesday, June 11th. ST. BARNABAS, *Apostle.*

Thursday, June 12th. CORPUS CHRISTI.

Friday, June 13th. Of the Octave of Corpus Christi.

Saturday, June 14th. Of the Octave. Commemoration of ST. BASIL THE GREAT, *Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor of the Church.*

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6/- per insertion of 3 lines; each additional line, 2/-
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DEATHS

Of your charity pray for the repose of the souls of the crew of H.M.S. "Hood," who made the supreme sacrifice on May 24th, Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, 1941—on whose souls sweet Jesus have mercy.

"Greater love than this no man hath that he lay down his life for his friends."
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DEVLIN.—On May 31st, 1941, at Craiglockhart, Edinburgh, FRANCES TERESA, Religious of the Sacred Heart, younger daughter of the late W. J. Devlin, Architect, and Mrs. Devlin, Aberdeen. R.I.P.

ANNIVERSARIES

Of your charity pray for the souls of the faithful whose anniversaries occur about this time.

HAYES—REV. CHARLES, June 11th, 1932.
HEALY—REV. FRANCIS, June 11th, 1933.
TIGHE—MAJOR VINCENT, D.S.O., West African Regt., June 7th, 1919.
WARRINGTON—JOHN FRANCIS, June 16th, 1921.

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3.30 p.m., Father MANGAN, S.J.
FRIDAY, JUNE 13th, 1941
3.30 p.m., Father DEVAS, S.J.

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6 JUN 1941

Summary)

The Pope's Whitsun Message

"Rerum Novarum"

In the midst of present difficulties Radio Vatican can "transmit only such words as are inspired by the comforting spirit of the Apostle Peter's first Whitsun speech in Jerusalem."

After recalling the first Pentecost in Jerusalemn, the Pope called the attention to the fiftieth anniversary on 15th May, 1891, of the epoch-making encyclical of Leo XIII: "Rerum Novarum". Leo XIII had no intention of laying down guiding principles on the purely technical side of the social structure; the Church does not claim such a mission. "In the general framework of labour the sane and responsible development of all the physical and spiritual energies of individuals and their free organisations opens up a wide field of action, into which the public authority enters with its integrating and co-ordinating activity, exercised first through the local and professional corporation, and finally through the activity of the State itself, whose higher, moderating social authority has the important duty of forestalling the dislocation of economic balance arising from the plurality and divergence of clashing interests, individual and collective. It is on the other hand the indisputable competence of the Church to decide whether the bases of a given social system are in accord with the unchangeable order which God has shown us through natural law and revelation." Leo XIII pointed out the errors and dangers of the materialist socialist conception and the fatal consequences of economic liberalism, so often unaware, forgetful or contemptuous of social duties, and exposed the principles necessary and suitable for improving gradually and peacefully the material and spiritual lot of the workers. Through "Rerum Novarum" arose, in the Catholic field, numerous and diverse centres of reciprocal help, such as the Catholic Unions, and the syndicates and associations of the agricultural and middle classes. The Encyclical "Rerum Novarum" inspired the working class with a sense of Christian sentiment and civic dignity. Its powerful influence gained with the passage of the years, to expand to such an extent that its norms became almost the common property of all men, and while the State in the 19th century, through excessive exultation of liberty, considered as its exclusive scope the safeguarding of liberty by the law, Leo XIII admonished it that it had also the duty of interesting itself in social welfare through a generous social programme and the creation of a labour code. It is a clear duty of justice to recognise the progress which has been achieved in the lot of the workers by civil authorities in many lands. In our Encyclical to the bishops of the U.S.A. we call attention to the basic idea of these principles: that goods created by God for all men, should flow equally to all according to the principles of justice and charity."

After speaking of the exonomic and social upheavals during the period before the war, the Pope said that the three fundamental values of social and economic life were the use of material goods, labour and the family.

Private Property and the Rights of Man

"Every man has from nature the fundamental right to make use of the material goods of the earth, while it is left to the will of man and to the juridical statutes of nations to regulate this individual right which cannot in any way be suppressed... . The natural order deriving from God demands also private property and the free reciprocal commerce of goods by interchange and gift, as well as the State as a control over all these institutions. Only the first and fundamental right, which concedes the use of material goods to all men can secure that private property and the use of material goods should bring peace and prosperity, and no longer set up precarious conditions which give rise to struggles and jealousy. To safeguard man's rights and facilitate the fulfilment of his duties should be the essential office of every public authority, whose power flows from the concept of the common good, which the State is called upon to promote. The care of such common good does not imply a power so extensive over the members of the community that the public authority can interfere with individual activity, decide on the beginning or the ending of human life, determine at will the manner of its physical, spiritual, religious and moral movements in opposition to the personal duties or rights of man, and condition, abolish or deprive him of his natural right to material goods.

Up to 1912, Britain's policy consisted of not allowing either Turkey or Greece to seize Crete. British propaganda made great play of the battle of Navarino, which it describes as a British victory on behalf of the Greek people. In fact, the British Fleet merely assisted in the defeat of the Turks, the main work having been done on this occasion by French warships. Britain was at the time careful to describe this battle as a "deplorable incident". In 1909 Britain tried to come to an arrangement with the Young Turks regarding Crete, but this proved unsuccessful as the new Turkey was already allied with the German Kaiser. The cowardly fugitive King of Greece was quite prepared to cede this island to Britain. His plans were shattered by German parachutists, who compelled him to flee from the Island. Nothing now upsets the King so much as the sight of an open umbrella.

Now, Britain's account is finally settled in Greece. British troops supplied with vast quantities of modern weapons, were unable to hold out for longer than 12 days against German soldiers armed only with light fire-arms.

We are now witnessing the downfall of another nation, which in former years was famed for bull dog tenacity. Britain was fully aware of the imperative necessity of defending Crete, and her forces in this Island were in very favourable circumstances. British propaganda proclaimed this to the world, and announced that Crete, being the key to the East is also the stepping stone to the British Empire. Churchill himself declared in the House of Commons that this bastion would be defended unto death. The British defeat is therefore all the more resounding. The march of historic events proves that Britain has no place in the E. Mediterranean, where her presence is just a remnant of old times. The British now have to go back to their own Island, wherethey can start history anew. The era opened by Aboukir closes in Crete. British decadence is demonstrated by barbarities such as the shooting of Italian officers in Benghazi and the mutilating of German prisoners in Crete. Britain has lost her head. To such acts there can be only one reply - get out of the civilised world!

ROME: 263.2 m: IN ENGLISH FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH AMERICA: 23.00: 1.6.41: (M.160).

(Reception poor)

Talk

America's Danger is not Fascism

The danger in America is not fascism; it is as idiotic to be anti-fascist in America as it would be to prevent Javanese dancing in Massachusetts. The danger is that America will fall under a tyranny without the safeguards which Italy preserves for the individual. Who owns the world's gold? Who profits by her enormous exchange of goods? The New Deal is backed by men who have gold and silver to sell. Gold and silver are special commodities but they are not essentials.

There is no reason for producers of grain and cotton to pay tribute to producers and dealers in metal. Funk has taught a large part of Europe that a nation cannot live on its interests, it can only live on its production. Any sudden devaluation of money is a swindle; this has been known for centuries. To devaluate the dollar is to tax every man who has a dollar. It is completely idiotic and an open invitation to men who are in a position to watch and time their selling.

Fascism is the only form of Government which can increase its income in the act of paying out money.

11. INDOCHINA FRENCH LOYAL TO VICHY It is reported that the French in Indochina have confirmed their loyalty to the Vichy Government.

13. YOKOHAMA: NEW HUNGARIAN ENVOY ARRIVES The newly-appointed diplomatic representative of Hungary in Tokio arrived here on board a Japanese (ship?)

Other items included: 2, Crete: British communique; 4, British losses; Churchill's figures; 8, Crete: Alexander's speech; 9, Crete: Germans and Italians join; 10, Four British submarines lost; 12, Mediterranean: British transport hit.

END OF 3B IT ABROAD

To deduce such extension of power from the care of the common good would be overthrowing the very meaning of "common good", and falling into the error that the proper scope of man on earth is society, that society is an end in itself, that man has no other life which awaits him. Likewise, the national economy, has no other end than to secure without interruption the material conditions in which the individual life of the citizen will be fully developed. True economic riches depend on the distribution of goods within the community. Although there were at hand a fortunate abundance of goods the people if they were not called on to share them would not be economically rich, but poor. If distribution is effected genuinely and permanently, you will see a people, even if it disposes of fewer goods, making itself economically sound. If the scope of the national economy is correctly considered, it will become a guide for statesmen and peoples to a way which does not call for continual exaction in goods and blood, but will bear fruit in peace and general welfare.

Labour

Men's personal duty and corresponding right to work is imposed on and conceded to the individual, in the first instance, by Nature, and not by society as if Man were nothing more than a slave or official of the community. It follows that the duty and the right to organise the labour of the people belongs above all to the people immediately interested, the employers and the workers. If they do not fulfil their function or cannot do so because of special contingencies, then it falls on the State to intervene in the fields of labour in the form and measure that the common good, properly understood, demands. Every legitimate and beneficial interference of the State in the field of labour should safeguard and respect its personal character. This will happen if the State does not abolish or render impossible the exercise of other rights and duties equally personal, such as to worship God, to marry, to lead a married domestic life, a reasonable liberty in the choice of a state of life and a true vocation.

The Family

Nature itself has linked private property with human society, and with the existence and development of the family. Private property should conduce to the good of the family. All public standards, especially those of the State, which regulate its possession, must not only make possible and preserve this lofty function but must also perfect it. Of all the goods that form private property, none is more naturally so, according to "Rerum Novarum", than land, the holding where the family lives and whence it draws all or part of its subsistence. Only that stability which is rooted in one's own holding makes of the family the vital and most perfect cell of society. If today the concept and creation of vital spaces is at the centre of social and political aims, should not one, before all else, think of the vital space of the family, and free it from the fetters which do not permit even the formulation of the idea of a homestead of one's own?"

Migration

Natural conditions made migration inevitable. When the right of a family to vital space is recognised, emigration attains its natural scope - the more favourable distribution of men on the earth's surface, capable colonies of agricultural workers. If those who agree to leave their native land, and those who agree to admit the newcomers, remain anxious to eliminate obstacles to real confidence between the country of immigration and country of emigration, then those affected by such a transfer will profit thereby.

These are the principles, conceptions and rules under which we may co-operate from now on in the future organisation of that New Order for which the world is waiting and wishing. The inspired message of "Rerum Novarum" may be overcast today, but when the work of reconstruction begins, it will impart a fresh and powerful impulse. You must watch over this divine flame, especially when it is swept into mud and dust by the turbulent wind of an anti-Christian or non-Christian spirit. (Fuller text on application).

END OF 3C VATICAN

MOSCOW (SOVIET HOME STATIONS): 25 m: IN RUSSIAN FOR USSR: 04.00; 1.6.41: (M.21).

(Reception poor)

1. STALIN RECEIVES PAASIKIVI The Finnish Ambassador, Mr. Paasikivi paid a farewell visit to Comrade Stalin on the 30th May, on relinquishing the post of Ambassador and departing for his home country. The talk lasted half an hour.

2. U.S.S.R AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION About 6,500 collective farmers yesterday studied the experiences of their colleagues in all parts of the Union, at the All-Union Agricultural Exhibitiion. A collective farm in Kazanistan has developed a new method ofor the cultivation of millet. The cotton growers of Tadzhikistan and Azerbaijan admired the achievements of a collective farm in Usbekistan which succeeded in growing 150 cwt of cotton on one hectare. Comrade Fedin spoke on cultivation of cereals inthe Grain Pavilion.

8. U.S.S.R SWEDISH DELEGATION LEAVES The Swedish Government Delegation to the Soviet-Swedish Commission for Negotiations on the settlement of property claims relating to the Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian Soviet Socialist Republics, composed of the Director of a Regional Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Engzell, the experts Messrs. (Frick?) and (Tuli?) and the Secretary, Mr. (Enk?) left Moscow on the 31st May. The Swedish Delegation was seen off at the Central Airport by the Member of the College of the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Pavlov, the Deputy of the Head of the Protocol Department of the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Molochko, the Secretary, Comrade Bazarov, the Counsellor of the Swedish Mission in Moscow, Mr. Nylander, and the Attache of this Mission, Mr. (Ostram?).

Ten items, including: 4, Kiev: New sowing-machine trials; 6, Moscow: New bridge; 9, German communique; 10, Friday night's raids on Britain: Reuter.

MOSCOW (SOVIET HOME STATIONS): 25 m: IN RUSSIAN FOR USSR: 06.00: 1.6.41: (M.19).

(Monitored for important items only)

2. TEXTILE INDUSTRY'S PROGRESS All branches of the textile industry in the Moscow Province have fulfilled their working schedules for the first five months of the year before the appointed time.

5. NEW HEALTH MEASURES Measures are being taken by the USSR People's Commissariat for Health to improve medical services in the medical areas in the agricultural districts.

8. CRETE: ANGLO-GREEK FORCES WITHDRAW: OFI Quoting Italian papers, OFI (Vichy) states that the Anglo-Greek forces in Crete are withdrawing towards the interior.

9. CRETE: CAIRO MILITARY COMMENT Reuter quotes Cairo military circles on the arrival of further German reinforcements in Crete and the general position there.

15. U.S. BASES IN GREENLAND: PLANS ACCELERATED New York: The Washington correspondent of Associated Press reports that the U.S.A. have decided to accelerate the construction of U.S. bases in Greenland after the encounter between the Hood and the Bismarck. U.S. experts who have been in Greenland will arrive in the U.S.A. at the beginning of the next week. The Governor of South Greenland will also come to Washington.

Fifteen items, including: 1, Stalin received Finnish Ambassador (Moscow: Russ: 04.00: 1); 7, German communique; 10, Italian communique; 11, Iraq: Armistice signed; 14, Dublin bombed.

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1941

VATICAN

R 6159

JUN 1941

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Registry Number } R 6159/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Kelly (Berne)

No. 1296.

Dated 13th June,

Received in Registry } 15th June, 1941

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope for the International Situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne No. 113 of 10th June. Refers to Holy See telegram No. 112 (R 6144/44/57).

Gives the gist of a conversation between the Pope and His Majesty's Minister, in which the latter emphasised the certainty of an eventual Allied victory. The Pope was receptive to assurances of the gathering weight of American aid, but was at the same time clearly impressed by what he had been told of the enormous German strength in material and man-power. His Majesty's Minister added that it seemed to him that faith in God and a belief in a Nazi regime were incompatible.

Last Paper.

R5887

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(P) Washington Tour 20 (copy sent on R6144)

(*Minutes.*)

Ref. to dept. copy attached.

It is clear from this that the Pope is only too happy to be given reasoned grounds for hope in our victory, and that he was considerably heartened by what Mr. Osborne told him. It is obviously most important that we should continue to keep up His Holiness' morale by every possible means.

I had already drafted a telegram to Mr. Osborne expressing approval of his language as reported in his immediately preceding telegram R6144/44/57. We can now add this reference to the draft so that the approval may cover both.

W.R.C. Knight 15/6

Sd. 23/6

Central Dept.

Mr. Randall.

Sir R. Campbell

Sir R. Campbell 17/6

Sir R. Campbell 17/6

Sir R. Campbell 17/6

R

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[Cypher.]

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

From SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 1296.
13th June, 1941.

D. 8.27 p.m., 15th June, 1941.
R. 12.0 a.m., 14th June, 1941.

::::::::::::::

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 113 of 10th June.

[Begins.]

R6144/4457.

My immediately preceding telegram.

2. The Pope remarked with interest on reference in my memorandum to our certainty of eventual Allied victory and I therefore strongly emphasised it. I had put in a further phrase to the effect that the "day of vindication of justice, fair dealing and human liberty may come sooner than might now be expected" and he picked upon this too so that I had to explain that it was really nothing more than a reaffirmation of faith in victory combined with an allusion to the quality of unexpectedness that had characterised the war.

3. He was very receptive to assurances of the gathering weight of American aid but was clearly impressed by what he had been told of the enormous German strength in material and man-power. I pointed out that, apart from eventual greater American capacity, there must also be reckoned the failure of the New Order as hitherto applied and the fact that all Europe was a volcano of hatred and passive resistance. The Hess incident and the [? stress] and [? care] of war had also affected the German morale. Herr Hitler had succeeded in kicking all Europe including Italy but material force alone could not prevail in the long run. I added that it seemed to me that faith in God and a belief in a Nazi victory were incompatible.

4. He again thanked me warmly for British news with which I supply him, saying it was practically his only source of non-Axis information.

15 JUN 1941 FO REGISTRY

R 6159
15 JUN 1941

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 6261

18 JUN 1941

910

Registry Number R 6261/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 1320

Dated 17th June, 1941.

Received in Registry 18th June, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of Monsignor Bernadini towards the outcome of the war.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.116 of 12th June. Refers to Foreign Office telegram to Holy See No.73 (R 5806/30/57). States that the information contained in the telegram under reference is based on a report by the United States representative in the Vatican. Understands that the Nuncio at Berne has always professed the personal opinion that the war must end in a compromise peace if all Europe is not to go down in common ruin and bolshevism. Does not agree, however, that this view is generally shared at the Vatican. The Nuncio's views on the persecution of the Church are definitely not shared at the Vatican.

Last Paper.

R 6159

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) 8 de 10/7

(Index.) 30/7

Next Paper.

R.6279

(*Minutes.*)

pp in Depr, copies of refs attached

This confirms what we thought. We felt pretty sure that the defeatist views of the ex-papal Nuncio at Berne were not generally shared in Vatican circles, still less his appreciation of the benefits of Nazi persecution of the Church.

For an earlier report on the Berne Nuncio's attitude please see Mr Kelly's telegram No. 312 of Feb. 6 (C 1168/324/18).

W.R.C.Knight 19/6.

IN 20/6.

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

R

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL (SECRET)

R 6261

18 JUN 1941

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No.1320.
17th June, 1941.

D. 3.50 p.m. 17th June, 1941.
R. 8.05 p.m. 17th June, 1941.

c c c

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.116 of June 12th.

Your telegram No.73. R5806/30/57 R 5359/30/57

This information is based on report by my United States colleague as was also that in your telegram No.63. As we regularly exchange information, it is unnecessary to return his reports to me via Washington unless comment is required as in the present case.

3.[sic] I understand that the Nuncio at Berne has always professed the personal opinion that the war must end in a compromise peace if all Europe is not to go down in common ruin and bolshevism. But I would not agree that this view is generally shared at the Vatican where the objective opinion as to prospective outcome of the war is alternately influenced by successive demonstrations of German military strength and science and by the growing appreciation of the indomitable British spirit and of the ever increasing American moral and material aid. See my telegram No.113. Nuncio's complacent views on persecution of the Church are certainly not shared here.

18 JUN 1941 F.O. REGISTRY

R 6159/30/57

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1041

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VATICAN

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R 6279

19 JUN 1941

Registry Number R 6279/30/57.

FROM The Royal Institute of International No. Affairs.

Dated

Received in Registry 19th June, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Roman Catholic Church and World Affairs.

Transmits a paper entitled "Church and State: the Roman Catholic Church and World Affairs", dated 17th February 1941, by Father M.C. D'Arcy, S.J.

Last Paper.

R 6261

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

WRCK 20/6.

Mrs Rendall.

This is a clear explanation of the attitude of the Papacy to modern politics, and is entered for record.

A.W.G.R.

23/VI

WRCK 24/6.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 25/6	30/7

Next Paper.

R 6421

18560 2/39 F.O.P

R 6279
9 JUN 1941

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THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Chatham House, 10 St. James's Square, London S.W.1.

CHURCH AND STATE: THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND WORLD AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Feb 17. 1941.

Father M. C. D'Arcy, S.J.

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The subject upon which I have to speak is that of Church and State, so I propose to make some general remarks about what I will call the traditional position of the relations of Church and State, and then pass to the present and say something of the attitude of the Papacy, the Vatican, and perhaps refer to possible future changes.

In this matter I must begin by saying that I do not speak as one who knows the intimate counsels of the Vatican, nor again am I obliged in any sense to defend the present policy of the Vatican with regard to its prudential judgment on practical affairs. Nevertheless, naturally, I will act to some extent, as Counsel for the Defence, as I think you expect that from me.

Concerning the Church and the State, the traditional doctrine speaks of the two Powers, the spiritual and the temporal. That the State is a natural unit is the constant assertion of the thinkers of Christendom, and it follows that it has sovereign, autonomous powers. Man is not capable of living by himself, as Leo XIII said in one of his Encyclicals: "There is in man, by nature, the germ of civil life, for he cannot arrive by himself at all that is needed for his independence or self-development, nor reach the ideals for which he is made. Therefore Providence has provided not only domestic union but a civil one which alone can provide for the needs of a full life." There you have the ground upon which the State rests and the relation of individual persons within a State to a State.

That is not my direct concern at the moment. Human welfare is said to be the end of the State. Human welfare consists of a fully human life where the practice of all the virtues is made possible, moral virtues, justice, virtues of the mind, and also material needs. And in order that those should be promoted and developed and worked out there is need for a certain authority which, as it is based on the very nature of man, possesses a moral sanction, in a way analogous to the moral authority which parents enjoy with regard to their children; I say 'analogous' because the problem changes owing

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to the fact that the members of a State are usually fully developed persons. The good temporal life, therefore, consists in the harmony of all these several relations of human beings with one another with regard to their moral development, personal liberties and their growth in mind and their material needs. Therefore the State community is a natural unit, sovereign and autonomous.

But the Church too claims to be a unit which is sovereign and autonomous; and in the Catholic Church the authority rests ultimately under God in the Pope, who possesses the power of teaching and ruling within the Catholic Church and has therefore plenary jurisdiction over the members of that Church. That is to say that he has a certain sovereignty analogous to that of a temporal sovereign. He possesses this over all those who profess the Catholic faith, and therefore Catholics in all parts of the world have that duty of obedience to him in spiritual matters analogous to their duties to the State in temporal matters; and to him the various leaders, Catholic leaders, in any State, if they cannot settle a matter for themselves, would refer ultimately on such questions as touched ecclesiastical rights and liberties, ecclesiastical property, marriage and religious education.

The problem arises of the relations of these two Powers. You can see quite clearly that they overlap to some extent. The problem is how to make a clear and proper disposition with regard to those perhaps conflicting authorities.

In the early centuries the Church exercised necessarily almost only a purely spiritual authority, but as it came more and more into contact with the world and all its concerns and problems, its indirect authority became more manifest. In the Middle Ages its purpose was to consecrate and elevate human life and act as Judge between Christian princes. At first to some extent, therefore, in its practice, shall we say unworldly? Later very closely mixed with the world, then the post Reformation period, an epoch which I may call an interim period. In this the Papacy clearly defined for itself certain obligations and certain powers which it must exercise, and relinquished in practice the exercise of many other powers which in theory it might claim. One of the grounds on which there is common question between Church and State would be that of morality, and I will therefore make certain distinctions between what I may call the various domains of the Church in relation to the State.

There is first of all the purely spiritual jurisdiction of the Church, which is concerned with its own worship, and those spiritual powers concerned with Sacraments which are so specifically and clearly spiritual that it is hard to see how they have any relation at all with the normal concerns of human life. That is the new thing introduced into the world at the coming of Christ. It is the purely spiritual realm.

Secondly /

Secondly, there is the spritual-temporal realm. These are my own distinctions and by spiritual-temporal I mean this: that though the spiritual is primary, the temporal enters into it. For instance, as regards education, as, according to the teaching of the Church, God has demanded certain things of human beings and there exist in Christianity specific doctrines relating to the development of human beings, the Church has a duty to see that those doctrines and commands of its Founder are carried out. Consequently it has a primary duty to see that its children are taught their faith and receive a religious education. But obviously this matter touches the temporal order and the rules and regulations of some department of a temporal power. I would call education primarily a spiritual but secondly a temporal matter, therefore spritual-temporal. Thirdly, there are moral questions and here again the Church must have something to say. If, for instance, a State proclaims that human individuals have no freedom, if it proclaims that they have no moral responsibility, if it claims that they can be treated just as animals, the Church is bound to say that such theories are fundamentally false. It is bound to disagree with that and that is why you usually find statements of Church teaching on morals as well as on faith. Christianity cannot exist except on certain so-called presuppositions of morality. If man is not free and has no responsibility, obviously then the whole meaning of the Incarnation and Redemption disappears. Obviously, again, if man has no freedom or responsibility, then the doctrines of Christianity with regard to charity and sin lose their meaning. So the Church is bound to interefere and to say, if the State commits itself to a doctrine of that kind, that it is false and that it will not allow its members to agree with such a doctrine. If a State claims to have the powers of Almighty God - such spiritual prerogatives that individual subjects of the State have no rights against it - if the State claims that it can take charge of the interior life of a man and allow him no freedom of though within or without the Church, the Church is again bound to condemn such a theory. If again, and here we come nearer to a modern question, if a State claims by any right to possess authority over all other States, if it claims to have some kind of mission from heaven, whereby all others must be its serfs, the Church must say that such a doctrine is radically false. Therefore, there is the spiritual realm, the spritual-temporal sphere and the fundamentals or moral doctrine; but fourthly there is the temporal-spiritual order, which raises a very delicate question, where primarily the matter seems to be one which States themselves, or Corporations, or individuals or classes should settle, and nevertheless moral questions enter into those matters, difficulties arise, evils become rampant. What is to be the attitude of the Church with regard to those cases? I want you to have clearly in mind that this fourth class is distinct from the other classes.

In the history of Christendom you will find that the Church had much to do with the building of mediaeval Christendom. As Europe made one society, on the whole professing one faith and one morality and as that society was still adolescent, the Church tended to be a kind of Mother or Step-Mistress and to watch over, protect and interfere in society more than would be tolerated under other conditions. Maritain, in his book on Humanism, has called that period the period of dedication or consecration, in which the spiritual and the temporal were so closely connected that most of the concerns of the temporal were consecrated and dedicated. We still have the traditions of those consecrations for instance in our ancient universities,

where

where, in the degree ceremony, we can see how the concept of human learning was consecrated. It became almost sacramental. We see how chivalry and knighthood were again consecrated. There were attempts to sanctify the Corporations and Guilds. In our coronation service we still see how religious the ideal of monarchy had become. That being so it was very easy and I think natural for the Papacy to interfere in a way which to us in modern times would seem to be remarkable, though in times of crisis we tend to ask the Papacy to do so again. In the mediaeval period the Pope was the last resort in moral questions. Since there was a unity and all were agreed upon fundamental moral issues it was more or less a question of legal decisions, because everybody was agreed upon the nature of good and evil. Aggression was aggression and there was no getting out of it. Everybody knew precisely, or though they knew, what were right actions and what were wrong and it was simply a matter of settling, before an umpire, who was in the right. So in that period the Papacy played a considerable part in the problems of the time and in settling issues between so-called States.

But after the Reformation something quite different began. The failure of the mediaeval experiment, the passing of States into a position where they sometimes claimed divine rights, the gradual secularisation (I use the word in no pejorative sense at the moment) of States, which pushed aside all religious matters as issues in which the State had either exclusive or no interest; all these various movements and the alienation of a great part of Europe and of the world from the Papacy and the Papal jurisdiction brought about a change of policy. The Papacy still exercised full jurisdiction over its members, it still made great claims with regard to matters spritual, spiritual-temporal, and morals, but from the class of issues temporal-spiritual it withdrew and said: "Since you will not listen and do not want to hear what I have to say, since you regard what I have to say, possibly, as antiquated, foreign or entirely against what you want, I reserve my judgment and will be silent.

The last two or three centuries through which we have passed have been centuries of the silence of the Papacy with regard to international affairs, national affairs and class affairs. There came then to be a sharper division between things temporal and spritual. With regard to the spritual-temporal matters the Church contented itself with saying what it could. It made Concordats with nations, with purely secular countries in order that it should preserve that minimum which was necessary for the worship of the Christian religion. It made Concordats so that its Bishops should have certain rights and so that education could be carried on.

When we come to the present, the problem takes on a new form. So far as one can see the present Holy Father, Pius XII, is adhering to that policy which has been practised for the last three centuries, which is roughly, that if there is any subject touching the essence of the Christian religion he will speak immediately. If there is any question relating to the spiritual-temporal he will speak and try by a Concordat or some means to see to it that the members of Christendom are enabled to practice those things required by religion, and when there is a failure in this respect on the part of any State he will declare that the Concordat has been broken. For instance, Pius XI, the late Pope, denounced the Nazis for their transgression of their solemn word in their Concordat in the Famous Encyclical Mit Brennender Sorge. Again he denounced the Fascist State also for breaking their solemn word in this connection. Again, with regard to the question of morals, throughout the last hundred

years.

years the Vatican, beginning with Leo XIII through Pius X, Pius XI and Pius XII has produced Encyclicals on nearly every great moral question of the day. They have defined and made as clear as possible what they think to be the fundamental doctrine with regard to civil liberties, the relation of the State to spiritual Powers, with regard to education, to international morality. In those Encyclicals you will find, fully worked out, a set of documents which express quite clearly what is the demand of Christendom with regard to the moral issues of to-day.

But with regard to the last sphere, the temporal-spiritual, that is more difficult, and, as I have said, so far as one can see the present Holy Father is observing the practice of his predecessors, and saying that it is not his direct concern. These matters concern the temporal rulers. He can only state general doctrines, unless he is back in a position analogous to that of mediaeval Christendom in which there is a moral unity in the world, in which he could act as a judge before a court which could produce its clear evidence and enable him to judge rightly. Until such a state of affairs exists he refuses to judge between one nation and another. That is the present policy of the Vatican and that is the reason why I think at the present moment, despite the desire of many, perhaps Catholics as well as non-Catholics, that the Papacy should take a more direct part in the present conflict, by making clear what it thinks to be the immorality and the foul practices of certain nations the Papacy does not commit itself expressly on that matter. I say "expressly". For if you glance through what the Pope has said his attitude become unmistaken. But before I go into that may I say a word about the difficulties of the position in which the Papacy is placed and why we should not demand of it more than it can give.

We must remember that the world at the present moment is composed of a very diverse set of nations having different beliefs and codes. I remember a clergyman criticising Sir Edwin Lutyens for not putting up a Christian symbol in Whitehall and his answer "But you seem to forget that amongst the nations that were fighting were Mahommedans, Buddhists and people of innumerable creeds"; and therefore it would not have been fair to symbolise those who died in the last war by the symbol of only one of the creeds. That brings out, I think, the complexity of our modern situation with the diversity of its beliefs. I would say myself that the disaster of modern times is our inability to agree upon any fundamental doctrine, and so to build up a truly fine conception of man upon which all thought would be unanimous. But the fact is, alas, that we are in a chaotic state at the present moment. There is no accepted morality so far as one can see. That is the first complication.

The second complication is that, in fact, before this present conflict, on many occasion, the great nations of the world have expressly arranged by treaty that the Vatican should have no voice in international affairs, and that must be remembered when we now say; "Let the Vatican now speak to the whole world on a matter between nations".

Thirdly, the more one looks into modern questions the more difficult they are to settle without a clear hearing of the evidence. I remember a few years ago, in the days of the General Strike, that the late Cardinal Bourne declared the strike to be unjustified. Innumerable people said that he spoke without any evidence; that he didnot know and had no right to speak on the matter; that the question was far more complicated

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than he though in his simple way. We know that issues between class and class can be argued by both sides, We know that the question, shall we say, of India needs intimate acquaintance with the problems. We have probably all heard fervent arguments on both sides concerning the relations of Eire and England. I have spent a year in America and have not long since come back and I can tell you that the discussions I heard filled me at times with dismay; yet I had to admit the strange fact of human nature, that there were people who just could not see what was so obvious to me. In America, for instance, there are many who cannot really believe that England can be simply right: that subtle, strange nation which is always gaining what it wants and is so extraordinarily diplomatically successful. That is at the back of their minds and it comes out in conversation. Again, on my way back, in Lisbon, I remember being told by members of the British Embassy in Madrid that the Spanish bishops were being inundated with literature from Berlin to show them that England was a country which had yielded completely to infidelity, which could ot be trusted, which was promoting everything it could against the interests of Catholic countries like Spain. Well, you know the power of suggestion, you know how, often, after a time it can make even educated people bring forward that plea, which I think is so devastatingly wrong: I will not judge because there is something to be said for both sides.

Now I do not think, for a moment, that the Vatican is behaving like that; but I do think it is necessary for us to remember the power of suggestion, the gradual building up of another scheme of ideas, a kind of coloured glass through which people, like, for instance, the Right Wing at Vichy, regard England as a sinister Power; and such a complex in people's minds is extremely difficult to break. In such a situation unless you can have some great certainty, unless truly you can have the unbiased evidence, it is part of prudence to refuse to judge. It is part of prudence to say: "Before I give out to the world something which carries all the weight of the power which is mine, and my authority to influence the Christian conscience, I must have a certainty above that of ordinary certainty. I cannot bind the conscience of my people in various parts of the world, I cannot say this side is right and the other is false, unless I am doubly sure". I do not say that that is the only reason, or even the main reason why the Papacy is silent to-day. For my own part I think it is a continuation of the old policy which has been the policy of the Papacy since the Renaissance: that the Papacy is concerned with spiritual and spiritual-temporal matters, with moral theory, but so far as the inter-relation of States is concerned or the relations of difference classes, until the world asks the Papacy to speak again, it is necessary to be silent. If the Papacy interfered in the Irish-British question or if Indian-British question, or if the Papacy had interfered in the Boer War, would not the average Englishman have been naturally furious?

But in face of the present issue, which is on a much greater moral scale, many feel that we have reached the end of an epoch, that something new has got to come into the world. We have reached a state of chaos and pandemonium, where we do need some direction even though we do not give it obedience. We do need to hear a simple integral, moral voice in the world. We are so broken as nations, that in my own opinion, many would welcome a change of policy.

Before/

Before I finish, I have said that the Papacy has made its mind fairly clear. Germany and Italy are, at the present moment, furious with the Vatican for its lack of neutrality. Italian newspapers bitterly attacked the Vatican before Italy entered the war because it alone would give the English news. It was also attacked because over the Vatican radio came quite clear statements of the iniquities which have been perpetrated. Again, the Vatican made every desperate effort to keep Italy from going into the war. During that period I think no one could be mistaken as to what the Vatican thought of another nation joining in what would be an act of aggression. It was for that reason, I think, added to the Lateran Treaty, that the Papacy did not regard it as needful to make any profession, for instance, such as the sending of a telegram to Greece, having already made its position clear. Again, in the Pope's Christmas Declaration racialism is clearly denounced as a foul thing and it is stated most definitely that nations must have their rights and that aggression is utterly wrong. These are declarations of Christian principle concerning what is happening now and there can be no doubt amongst those who read them as to where truth and honour lie.

But a word, before I close, of the future. In the famous five points for peace of December 24th 1939 you will remember the following: "The funadmental postulate for any just and honourable peace is the assurance for all nations, great and small, powerful or weak, of their right to life and independence. The will of one nation to live must never mean the sentence of death passed upon another. When such equality of rights is destroyed, attached or threatened repatriation shall be made and the measure and extent of that reparation shall be determined not by the sword, nor by the arbitrary divisions of self-interest but by the rules of justice and reciprocal equity." For this to come about I think there must be a change of front with regard to the whole question of religion. I do not see, as long as our schools are completely invaded by secularist policies, as long as God, so to speak, hides in a shelter, how we can be concerned with what the Papacy thinks or with the regeneration of man or with any new world order. This time, in contrast with the last war, we must regain some of our conceptions of the dignity of man, and the only foundation for his equality, his fraternity, his liberty will be lacking until we build up a great Christian code or work upon the great Christian code which is already there. Until this is done I think it is useless to ask: "Why will not the Pope condemn this or that? Will not the Vatican do this or that? What shall be the policy of the Catholic Church?" We, ourselves, have got to come to some agreement. We have to set our own house in order and to form some unity upon which the fine things can be built. Without that foundation the building will just collapse. If we could only somehow think out and agree that some kind of international morality was not only right but desperately needed, if we were prepared to take advice and to listen without animosity and bitter prejudice to what Christian leaders say, then, indeed, I think the relations of Church and State would improve, but far more important for the moment, the relations between State and State would improve. Once we desert the high morality which is the foundation of justice and equality and all the other virtues, we will inevitably, no matter what decisions we make, travel nearer and nearer to the morals of the jungle; and it seems to me that only by thrusting aside all this third rate stuff which has been going round the world, by putting aside petty little

ambitions.

ambitions to be clever and say something which will shock people and forget all that has served for the ruination of all the finest things in our spiritual order as well as the finest things of our physical order, only by casting those things aside, and going back to the fine old traditional conceptions and reliving them and perhaps bringing to them something new, only in that way can we hope to restore not only Christendom but ordinary life.

DISCUSSION.

Mrs. C.E. WOLFF asked whether the Vatican has ever considered other, alternative forms of Christianity as matters which could be discussed. This was rather an important matter when a unified form of Christianity for the world were being considered.

FATHER D'ARCY said that so far as specific spiritual differences existed between creeds, this was a matter for the Churches to discuss together. But so far as the moral order were concerned, the issues of justice and charity between man and man, the Holy Father had expressly said that he hoped for a combination of all right-thinking people. Whether he had mentioned the different denominations or not he had certainly implied this.

MR. E.J. ELLIOT said that the audience had listened very intently and with great reward to themselves to the address which had just been given, whatever might be their religious beliefs, or in lieu of these, irreligious opinions.

Would not the lecturer say something about the attitude of the Church to War? Surely the slaying of men by each other was a matter which entered directly into the spiritual realm of things?

The theme of the lecturer's address was the disaster which had befallen humanity as a result of the lack of a common spitirual basis upon which all human relations could be built. The end of the present war would give an opportunity for such a basis to be constituted; but the attitude of the Vatican towards the League of Nations, which had been an effort of a material and political kind towards this end, had not been very encouraging. Would the lecturer give his opinion upon this point?

FATHER D'ARCY said that he considered the matter of war to come into the moral order. By the spitiitual order he had meant those things which concerned the form of worship of God, in the Christian religion, the specific way in which the Founder of Christianity had laid down a Doctrine with regard to Grace and other matters of this kind.

The moral order was that which dealt with the issues as between man and man, man's duty towards his neighbour. However, in his opinion, the moral order always had a relationship with the spiritual order. In the old sense of the word religion was a moral virtue, because given the existence of God and of human beings, immediately there arose the relationship between them, and religion meant the obligation of man to his Creator and to Infinite Goodness. Now the word religion was used more in the spiritual sense.

With/

With regard to the moral order, the Church had no new revelation concerning murder, lying, justice etc. The doctrine of the Church with regard to war had always been that where every other means had been exhausted for the maintenance of peace, where the good was endangered irremediably, the defence of that good and its preservation by physical force was permitted. With a few exceptions this had been the constant doctrine of Christendom. Nevertheless it was the duty of man to strive by every means to bring about a condition of society where war was no longer necessary, and where, indeed, it could no longer serve to preserve the good as at the moment it did. At the moment it was the only method which could be used to preserve the good and those imperishable things which were endangered.

Concerning the attitude of the Vatican to the League of Nations, the Holy See had sought for some kind of international agreement, and Benedict XV had suggested something analogous to the present League of Nations, but, in fact, the agreement between England and Italy, concluded at the end of the last war, had stated that the Papacy should have nothing whatsoever to do with international affairs. On this ground and on much broader grounds the Vatican had been doubtful as to whether the means taken at the time of the formation of the League of Nations would achieve their object. Unfortunately these doubts had proved to be only too well founded. So far as any comity of nations or any institution working disinterestedly for the peace of the world was concerned there was no doubt but that it would be backed wholeheartedly by the Papacy. The question as to whether the Papacy could participate in such an institution was another and a very delicate matter, but that it would receive whole-hearted support could not be questioned.

MR. BERNARD CAUSTON asked the lecturer if he would elucidate the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church towards the Spanish War.

One important point brought out by the Churches in Germany in regard to National Socialism had been their denunciation of the doctrine that whatever belief served the State was Truth. But the Christian Churches also suffered from consisting of human beings liable to fall into the error of sectarianism. As an Evangelical churchman he was only too conscious of this. There was a point at which pietism, if due to self-love, actually prevented Christians from answering the needs of their fellows. During his stay in Berlin he had noted that the trials of the Confessional Church under National Socialism had made its adherents aware of the value of the part played by non-believing Humanists in the stand for justice. They had also realised that Truth must have a non-Sectarian character and that Christians must be able to perceive where the non-believer could play his part, reflecting something of God in his stand for Truth.

FATHER D'ARCY said that he would prefer not to refer to the delicate question of the attitude of the Papacy to the Spanish War.

He would agree with a great deal of what the previous speaker had said. Christians must watch themselves carefully at all times lest they sinned through sectarianism or a sense of superiority. Having been given all things by the Grace of God they were too often apt to think it was all their own,

and/

and to look down upon their less gifted neighbours. Certainly the present struggle had shown what great good sense and glorious potentialities existed among those who had not known the greatest privileges of education and Christian teaching. It was vitally necessary to prevent sectarianism from creeping into the Christian attitude.

On the other hand sectarianism was a word like democracy, self-determination and so many others, it could be used in whatever sense the speaker desired. The doctrine that it did not matter what a man believed so long as he believed it sincerely was, in his view, disastrous. He had been in America when the unfortunate attack upon Bertrand Russell had occurred and had felt the deepest sympathy with him but the arguments used by those defending him had been extraordinarily inconsequential, being that whatever a man believed he should have liberty to teach it. It was no use for those who held this view to say, when they had brought up a Hitler, that such a thing ought never to have been allowed. There was such a thing as Truth which was not sectarian at all.

SIR GEORGE MACDONOGH, K.C.M.G. thanked the lecturer for his most interesting address and remarked how history repeated itself.

The work of the Germans to get the Spanish bishops on their side had been mentioned; during the last war, when he had himself been Director of Military Intelligence at the War Office, the Germans had spread stories about the complete lack of religion in England and the fact that the Roman Catholic soldiers had no facilities for practising their religion. Fortunately he had been able to arrange for an invitation to be sent to the Archbishop of Grenada who had gone out to the front and met the senior Catholic Chaplain who had shown him the arrangements made for the Catholic soldiers. It was to be hoped that something similar would be done in the present instance to show how utterly untrue were the German allegations.

Chatham House,
St. James's Square,
London, S.W.1.

February 17th, 1941.

J6

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6421

24 JUN 1941

103

F.O. Number } R 6421/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM
Lord Halifax
No. Washington.
97 Fixit Saving.

Dated 17th June 1941.

Received in Registry 24th June 1941.

R: Vatican.

Vatican attitude to the Russo-German dispute.

A report from the Vatican dated 16th June stated that in Vatican circles it was felt that the dispute between Germany and Russia would probably eventually be settled by recourse to arms rather than by compromise.

(Minutes.)

They were right, as it turned out.

X.

W.J.C.K 24/6

Last Paper.

R 6279

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.) DE 25/6

(Index.) 8m. 3/97

Next Paper.

R 6537

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

12

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

R 6421

24 JUN 1941

[EN CLAIR] SPECIAL (FIXIT).

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Viscount Halifax,
No. 97 Fixit Saving. D. By bag 17th June, 1941.
17th June, 1941. R. 10.45 a.m. 24th June, 1941.

g g g g g

Report from the Vatican dated June 16th stated that in Vatican circles it was felt that the dispute between Germany and Russia would probably eventually be settled by recourse to arms rather than by compromise.

24 JUN 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 6537

28 JUN 1941

Registry Number R 6537/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly Berne

No. 1404

Dated 27th June, 1941

Received in Registry 28th June, 1941

R: Vatican ~~City~~

Alleged stories of statements on the war made by the Pope.

Following from Mr. Osborne No. 120 of 16th June. Refers to Holy See telegram No. 24 (R 1398/30/57). Reports that a further article entitled "Words of Truth" appeared in the "Osservatore Romano" of 9th June. It referred to the frequency with which false news or interferences in regard to supposed acitivities of the Holy See are disseminated by the press and radio. Gives examples of this. The writer's conclusion is that such false reports would not be collected and spread if greater attention were paid to the words addressed by the Pope to men of goodwill at frequent intervals.

Last Paper.

R 6421

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

This is obviously from and not for Mr Osborne, and should of course not have been repeated back to him.

The colocsque of false interpretations repudiated by the Holy See in para. 2 is analogous to that in para. 6 of Mr Osborne's Tel. No 24 of Feb. 17th (R 1398/30/57). I do not know what the first and last sentences refer to, but the second and third sentences clearly allude to Croatia and the Pope's reception of Spoleto and Pavelic.

Unfortunately démentis published in the "Osservatore" can have very little effect, as that newspaper is unobtainable outside the Vatican City except

(Action completed.) JC 5/7

(Index.) JC 2/7

Next Paper.

R 6606

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

by

by regular subscribers, and the Italian press is obliged to ignore or gloss over its now rare pronouncements on matters of political interest.

W. C. Arnold 28/6.

Mr Randazzo
Central Dept.

I am not much impressed. Copy returned to Religious Div. (M.F.I.) sent 30/6/41 WACK

JS/7

W.C. Mf.

JN
28/6.

(I understand this was not actually repeated, as the action was held up in time. W.C.K. 30/6).

R

[En clair]

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

R 6537
JUN 1941

107

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly
No. 1404
27th June, 1941

D. 2.20 p.m. 27th June, 1941
R. 7.50 p.m. 27th June, 1941

T. from a.a.a.a.a.a.a.a

(Room 44 are checking).

Following ~~for~~ from Mr. Osborne No. 120 of June 16th.

My telegram No. 24. R 1398/30/57

1 Further article entitled "Words of Truth" appeared in "Osservatore Romano" of June 9th. It referred to the frequency with which false news or interferences in regard to supposed activities of the Holy See are disseminated by the press and radio.

2 " For instance should the Pope express his opinion of the personal qualities of a statesman who has visited him, some paper will at once interpret this as a proof that the Holy See approves the statesman's policy. " Should there be sudden political and territorial changes in the Balkans, the press and news agencies take the opportunity to affirm that the Holy See is actively working for the purpose of establishing new diplomatic representations.
3. If the Pope in deference to a desire formally expressed to him, receives catholic personalities in audience, it will be affirmed and repeated with every assurance that such audiences have political significance and intention. " On another occasion there will be reported secret meetings and political gatherings in the Vatican which are in fact purely imaginary.

3 The writer's conclusion is that such false reports would not be collected and spread if greater attention were paid to the words addressed by the Pope to men of goodwill at frequent intervals.

[[Repeated to Holy See under Foreign Office No. 90]]

28 JUN 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 6606

30 JUN 1941

Registry Number } R 6606/30/57

FROM Reuters.

No.

Dated -

Received in Registry } 30th June, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of Catholics to Russia's entry into the war.

The Vatican correspondent, of the "Gazetta del Popolo" declares that the Russian campaign is being followed with intense interest by Catholics all over the world. Germany's and Italy's declaration of war against the Soviet Union was received with the utmost satisfaction by Catholics who see in it the possibility of banishing from the earth a social and political outlook that is hostile to religion and the family.

Last Paper.

R 6537

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

See within - Tilwd (Minutes.) extract of July 1 BBC, Comm'd of - June 29

Axis hopes of a Papal pronouncement which would have served their propaganda were doomed to disappointment. The text now attached below shows that it was quite a non-committal statement on very general lines.

We shall no doubt receive comments from the Osborne in due course.

W.R.C Knight 1/7

~~Jn Randall~~.

(Action completed.) JC 7/7

(Index.) 8F 3/7

Next Paper.

R 6608

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Mr Randall.

May we keep
(in R6606/30/57)?

WLCK 2/7

Yes.
A.R.
2/vii

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

110

I attach a copy of the B.B.C. version of the Pope's address made on June 29th. The political references are very few, but it may be noted that:-

(1) According to the Washington correspondent of the "Times" today, the Pope's allocution was considered to be a discouragement to German propagandists.

(2) The special blessing on the Italian people was due to the fact that June 29th, the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul is a traditional and very much celebrated Italian festival when as a rule St. Peter's is full of Italians who demonstratively join in the singing of the hymn in honour of the Saints.

A.W.G. Randall

1st July, 1941.

Southern Dept.

(2). I have pointed this out in a suggested addition to the current Political Intelligence Summary for (Italy), which might otherwise have given rise to some misunderstanding.

W.R.C. Hayter

2/7.

(0226). No. 116. Rome. The Pope's speech is not much commented on by Italian Press which published speech in six pages. Papers point out speech is not political. Papers also are somewhat disappointed with the speech because the Pope did not use strong words against Bolshevism now where there is war against the greatest enemy of Christianity.

21.
LUXEMBOURG IN ENGLISH FOR ENGLAND AND NORTH AMERICA
21.30 27.6.41.

VATICAN CORRESPONDENT OF ROME PAPER ON WAR AGAINST SOVIET

THE VATICAN CORRESPONDENT OF THE GAZETTA DEL POPOLO DECLARES THAT THE RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN IS BEING FOLLOWED WITH INTENSE INTEREST BY CATHOLICS ALL OVER THE WORLD. GERMANY'S AND ITALY'S DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION WAS RECEIVED, THE PAPER GOES ON, WITH THE UTMOST SATISFACTION BY CATHOLICS, WHO SEE IN IT THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING UPON THE EARTH A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL OUTLOOK THAT IS HOSTILE TO RELIGION AND THE FAMILY. 04.14 28.6.41+++

112
R 6608
30 JUN 194

SPECIAL - POPE'S CALL -1-

POPE'S CALL FOR GREATER TRUST IN DIVINE JUSICE

"TRIAL WILL ENDURE ONLY FOR TIME"

SUNDAY.

THE TRAGIC SUFFERINGS OF HUMANKIND BOWED UNDER THE SCOURGE OF WAR AND RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION, AND THE NEED FOR CONFIDENCE IN DIVINE JUSTICE, WERE THE THEMES DEALT WITH BY THE POPE IN AN ADDRESS BROADCAST TODAY FROM THE VATICAN, SAYS REUTER.

THE OCCASION OF THE ADDRESS WAS THE FEAST OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL. THE POPE BEGAN BY DEPICTING THE PLIGHT OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES "WITHOUT THE COMFORT AND COMPANY OF THOSE TWO STRONG SPOKESMEN, ABANDONED TO THE BRUTALITY OF A NERO AND TO THE DREADFUL POWER OF ROMAN IMPERIAL GREATNESS".

THEN SPEAKING OF THE SUFFERING AND ANGUISH NOW RAGING OVER THE WORLD, THE POPE SAID: "THERE ARE NOT LACKING , IT IS TRUE, IN THE DARKNESS OF THE STORM, COMFORTING SIGNS WHICH FILL OUR HEARTS W GREAT AND HOLY EXPECTATION - GENEROUS COURAGE IN DEFENCE OF THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN CIVILISATION AND CONFIDENT HOPE OF THEIR TRIUMPH. REUTER SPECIAL

MORE-17

1954

UNDATED- SPECIAL - POPE'S CALL -2-

"ON THE OTHER HAND ARE PAIN AND EVIL PENETRATING THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS, THE SACRED SHRINE OF FAMILY, THE SOCIAL ORGANISATION. A DECADENCE OF THE SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AND OF CHARITY.

"PEOPLES OVERTHROWN OR FALLEN INTO AN ABYSS OF DISASTER. HUMAN BODIES TORN BY BOMBS OR BY MACHINEGUN FIRE, WOUNDED AND SICK WHO FILL HOSPITALS AND OFTEN COME OUT WITH THEIR HEALTH RUINED, THEIR LIMBS MUTILATED , INVALIDS FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES.

"PRISONERS FAR FROM THOSE DEAR TO THEM AND OFTEN WITHOUT NEWS OF THEM. INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES DISPERSED, SEPARATED FROM THEIR HOMES, SUFFERING IN MISERY WITHOUT SUPPORT, WITHOUT MEANS OF EARNING THEIR DAILY BREAD , EVILS ALL OF THEM WHICH AFFECT NOT ONLY FIGHTING MEN BUT WEIGH ON THE WHOLE POPULATION, OLD MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, THE MOST INNOCENT, THE MOST PEACE-LOVING, THOSE BEREFT OF ALL DEFENCE.

"BLOCKADES AND COUNTER -BLOCKARES THAT AGGREVATE ALMOST EVERYWHERE THE DIFFICULT OF OBTAINING SUPPLIES OF FOODSTUFFS, SO THAT ALREADY HERE AND THERE FAMINE IN ALL ITS HORROR MAKES ITS DREADED APPEARANCE.

"ADDED TO THIS ARE THE INDESCRIBABLE SUFFERINGS, PAIN AND PERSECUTION THAT SO MANY OF OUR DEAR SONS AND DAUGHTERS, PRIESTS AND OTHERS ENDURE IN SOME PLACES FOR THE NAME OF CHRIST.

MORE-17. REUTER SPECIAL

UNDATED SPECIAL - POPE'S CALL -3-

"BEFORE SUCH AN ACCUMULATION OF EVIL, OF OBSTACLES TO VIRTUE, OF DISASTERS OR TRIALS OF EVERY KIND, IT SEEMS THAT MAN'S MIND AND JUDGMENT HAVE BECOME CONFUSED AND PERHAPS IN THE HEARD MORE THAN ONE OF YOU IS WRITTEN THE TERRIBLE SUGGESTION OF SOUBT WHICH PERCHANCE AT THE DEATH OF THE TWO APOSTLES WAS A DISTURBING TEMPTATION FOR SOME OF THE LESS STAUNCH CHRISTIANS.

"HOW CAN GOD PERMIT ALL THIS? HOW CAN AN OMNIPOTENT GOD INFINITELY WISE AND INFINITELY GOOD POSSIBLY ALLOW SO MANY EVILS WHICH HE COULD SO EASILY PREVENT?"

THE POPE THEN QUOTED ST PETER'S QUESTION TO CHRIST, ASKING WHY EVIL AND VIOLENCE SHOULD BE PERMITTED SO FAR TO DOMINATE THE WORLD, AND CHRIST'S ANSWER : "MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT THY THOUGHTS N

"ALL MEN" THE POPE CONTINUED, "ARE AS CHILDREN BEFORE GOD, EVEN THE MOST EXPERIENCED LEADERS OF THE PEOPLE. THEY JUDGE EVENTS WITH THE FORE-SHORTENED VISION OF TIME WHICH PASSES. GOD SEES THE FROM THE STATIC CENTRE OF ETERNITY. THEY THINK OF HUMAN EVENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR PROXIMATE CAUSES AND JUDGES THEM IN THEIR REMOTE EFFECTS".

TRUST IN GOD MEANT BELIEVING THAT GOD COULD SOMETIMES PERMIT THE PREVALENCE OF ATHEISM, ANECLIPSE OF JUSTICE, VIOLENCE OF LAWS AND THE TORMENTING OF INNOCENT PEOPLE, UNDEFENDED, HELPLESS AND MAIMED. REUTER SPECIAL

MORE -17

UNDATED - SPECIAL - POPE'S CALL -4-

"BUT IT MEANS BELIEVING AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE FIERCE INTENSITY OF THE TRIAL, LIKE THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL, WILL ENDURE EVEN HERE BELOW ONLY FOR A FIXED TIME AND NO LONGER .

"THE ALL-POWERFUL HAND OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER WILL DISPERSE IT, AND BY WAYS LITTLE KNOWN TO THE MINDS OF MEN JUSTICE AND PEACE WILL BE RESTORED TO THE NATIONS."

TO THE SUFFERING, THE POPE SAID:

"TRY TO FIND ROSES IN YOUR CROWN OF THORNS, AND THUS YOU WILL FIND TRUE PEACE".

THE POPE GAVE THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS ADDRESS . REUTER SPECIAL

MC-17

200

2008

IN SHEET 3 PSE READ

THOUGHTS ARE NOT THEY THOUGHTS NOR THEY WAYS MY WAYS.

"ALL MEN" ITC

AXIS PRESSURE ON THE POPE

THE VATICAN AND RUSSIA

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, JUNE 30

Yesterday's address by the Pope has been awaited in this country of 20,000,000 Roman Catholics with the deepest interest. The Rev. John Ellis, Professor of History at the Roman Catholic University, Washington, speaking at the Vesper service at Aunylotteville, Virginia, last night, expressed the hopes and expectations of some extremists when he predicted that the voices of "authoritative spokesmen" would be raised against giving aid to Russia and thus, by extension, range American Roman Catholics against the declared policy of the Roosevelt Administration.

The text of the Pope's address does not support these hopes, and is considered in official circles here as a definite discouragement to German propagandists and others who are seeking to stimulate an anti-Russian "crusade." According to Mr. Herbert Matthews, in a Rome dispatch to the *New York Times* to-day, the address may be followed by instructions to bishops in which the political rather than the religious nature of such a "crusade" will be recognized and deprecated. Mr. Matthews mentions that the Pope is known to have been under heavy "political" pressure to support, through the bishops, the formation of volunteer battalions "to fight the Communists."

Private advices here have reported the vigour with which the Italian Government acted as the spearhead of that pressure. It is said that Mussolini has been promised as his share of victory a "mandate" over the Crimea and Transcaucasia, and that propagandist preparation has been made for an irredentist claim to the Crimea on the ground that there were Italian settlements there in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. So far as the Italian people are concerned these reports represent them as caring for little but the end of the war. A small and better informed minority, however, expresses its bitter sense of danger in saying that if England wins *siamo perdenti*, but if Germany wins *siamo perduti*, and they would rather be the "losers" than the "lost."

Times.

1. 7. 41.

R 6606 | 30 | 57

INDEXED

RADIO VATICAN. IN ITALIAN AND ENGLISH FOR THE CATHOLIC WORLD. 29.6.41.

R 6606/30/57 INDEXED

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Summary.

ALLOCUTION MADE BY HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII ON "DIVINE PROVIDENCE IN HUMAN EVENTS."

The Pope discourse at length on the Martyrdom of the Princes of the Apostles and the sufferings of the early Christians in Rome, and then, turning to the state of Christian civilization today, ~~xxxdx~~ said:

"There is the spectacle of evil penetrating into the life of individuals into the sanctum of family life and into the social organisms, not merely tolerated by weakness and impotence, but excused, exalted, and enhanced as a dominating principle in the most diverse phases of human life, of the decadence of the spirit of justice and charity, of nations overthrown or fallen into an abyss of disaster: human bodies torn by bombs or machine guns: wounded and disabled who are filling the hospitals and come out often ruined, with limbs mutiliated, invalids for the rest of their lives: prisoners far from those dear to them and often without news of them, individuals and families deported, transported, separated from their homes, erring in misery, without means of earning their daily bread: evils all of them, which affect not only combatants, but entire population: aged women, and children, the most innocent, the most peaceful, deprived of all defence. Blockades and counter blockades aggravate almost everywhere the difficulty of supplies of foodstuffs, caused already here and there famine in all its horrors."

Catholic Persecutions.

"Besides all these tribulations and sufferings, actual persecutions are being inflicted upon our faithful, which so many of our dearest sons and daughters priests, nuns, and laymen in some places endure for the name of Christ, for the sake of their religion, because of their sacred ministries: pain and bitterness which our anxiety for those who suffer does not allow us to reveal in all their sad and moving details."

"Because of such an accumulation of evils, of frustration, disasters, of trials of every kind, it seems that man's mind and judgement go astray and become confused. And perhaps in the hearts of more than one of you has ~~xxxxxx~~ arisen the terrible suggestion of doubt, which perchance at the time of the death of the two apostles was a disturbing temptation for some of the less convinced Christians."

"Thou dost not know the things that are of God and the things that are of man", said Christ to Peter, just as you have read the prophet Isaiah say to the people of Judah, "my thoughts are not your thoughts nor your ways my ways". All men are children before God, even the most profound thinkers and the most experienced leaders of peoples. They judge events with the foresight and vision of time which passes and fades out irrevocable; God, however, sees events from the heights, God has before Him the all-embracing panorama of the ages." They think of human events in relation to their proximate causes and immediate effect, God sees them in their remote causes and judges them in their remote effect. They stop to single out this or that particular hand responsible for a detail - God sees the whole complicated convergence of responsibility because His exalted Providence does not exclude the free choice between evil and good human decisions.

Triumph of Evil only temporary.

"To trust in God means believing finally that the fierce intensity of the trial, that the triumph of evil even here below can only last for a limited period and not longer. (N.B. last words pronounced most emphatically.) That the hour of God will come, an hour of mercy, an hour of true rejoicing, the hour of the new canticle of liberation, the hour of exaltation and of joy, the hour in which, after having let the hurricane loose for a moment on humanity, the all powerful hand of the heavenly Father with an imperceptible motion will allay it and disperse it and by ways which

are not yet discernable to human mind, will arouse the hopes of mankind and restore justice, calm and peace to the nations.

"Through the languishing of faith in man's heart, through the pleasure seeking that moulds and ca tivates their lives, we are driven to judge as evil and as unmixed evil all the physical mishaps of the earth."

"We must bear in mind that there is no living in the love of Christ without suffering. To that cross which illuminates the way of truth and light, the first martyrs and the first Christians looked in the their hours of suffering and persecution. You too, beloved sons look upon your sufferings and you will derive the strength not only to submit to them with resignation but even to love them, to glorify ih them, to glory in them as did the apostles, our Fathers and elder brothers, who were torn in the same flesh as you and were equally subjected to human pain."

"Do not merely think upon the throns that afflect you and cause you pain, but think also of the merit which sprouts from your suffering like the roses of a heavely garland: and you will find by the grace of God the courage and strength of that peace surpassing all measure, the heroism which your faith has the right to expect from you."

(one phrase inaudible.) "We feel in the depths of our heart, that the desire of all our childfen coincides with ours, and thus we pray to God that the virtue of all in the great hour of history may be equal to their faith. We think of thee, O beloved Rome, our native city in a double sense: the object of eternal counsel accustomed to bear with such a noble sense of duty the great burdens in the light of the cross: To thee, before all, goes our blessing. We know that thou wilst not, in this hour in thy serene strength and exercise of good, deny that faith which has made thee Mistress of the world, and majestic among the nations of christian culture."

Blessing on the Italian people.

"Together with thee, we bless the whole Italian people which has the priveledge of harbouring the centre of Christian unity and presents the manifest signs of a God given mission and which in the monuments of its glorious history throughout the centuries shows faith in its Catholic tradition."

"On the whole world wherever we have sons, all equally dear to us, we send our blessing, while our heart trembles within us, as we think of those peoples who suffer particularly from the present calamity which has already filled the earth with such conflicts.and such mourning. Nor would we exclude from our prayers and good wishes those who are as yet far from the bosom of the church so they may feel that insistent motherly call to return, and so they too may seek in Her salvation and peace."

After the speech the Holy Father imparted the Apostolic blessing.

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1941

VATICAN

R 6608

30 JUN 1941

Registry Number } R 6608/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 40(8/19/41).

Dated 2nd June, 1941.

Received in Registry } 30th June, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Pope's broadcast address of the 1st June:

Transmits the official English text of the Pope's broadcast address of 1st June, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of Leo XIII's Encyclical Rerum Novarum. Says that for the most part the Pope confined himself to the subject of the Encyclical ~~Branch~~, social justice. Quotes several extracts which seem worthy of note though does not consider that this address as a whole is of any great importance.

Last Paper.

R 6606

References.

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British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY.

June 2nd 1941.

R 6608

30 JUN 1941

No. 40.

(8/19/41)

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the official English text of the Pope's broadcast address of June 1st in commemoration of the fiftieth annieversay of Leo XIII's Encyclical Rerum Novarum. In my telegram No. 2 Empax of May 26th I had sent such advance information regarding the address as it was possible to obtain and since passages from it were quoted this morning by the B.B.C. I presume that it was possible to make a recording of it.

2. For the most part the Pope confined himself to the subject of the Encyclical, namely, social justice. The following passages are worthy of note:-

Page 1: the assertion that, while other radio services are transmitting"words full of passion, bitterness, division and strife", the Vatican Radio "can transmit only words animated with the consoling spirit of that preaching . . . of St. Peter". This I think must be considered as an attempt to justify the recent muzzling of the Vatican station on German demand. It overlooks the crucial argument that it should be the duty of the Vatican station to combat false Nazi propaganda.

Page 3: "It is the indisputable competence of the Church, on that side of the social order where it meets and enters into contact with the moral order, to decide whether the bases of a given social system are in accord . . with the Natural Law and Revelation", i.e. to decide

whether...

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

whether men "breathe the healthy vivifying atmosphere of truth and moral virtue or the disease-laden and often fatal air of error and corruption." This is an assertion of the Church's responsibility in the moral sphere. "Before such a thought, the Pope continues, how could the Church . . . remain silent?" Unfortunately the Church has just imposed silence upon herself. In this passage the Pope is speaking of social conditions and of "the errors and dangers of the materialist Socialist conception" prior to the Encyclical Rerum Novarum", but his words are very pertinent to-day.

Pages 7 and 10: the "care of the common good" on the part of public authority does not mean that the authority can "determine at will the manner of his (the individual's) physical, spiritual, religious and moral movements in opposition to the personal duties or rights of man". "Legitimate and beneficient interference of the State in the field of labour" should not"abolish or render impossible the exercise of other rights and duties equally personal", namely, the rights of worship, marriage and "the right to a reasonable liberty in the choice of a state of life and the fulfilment of a true vocation." This is very mild and cautious criticism of the totalitarian doctrine of the supremacy of the State when contrasted with the preremptory condemnation found in His Holiness' own Encyclical "Summi Pontificatus"of October 20th, 1939. Moreover, even these tentative, allusive generalisations are further weakened by immersion in the oratorical flux of language that has characterised the Pope's more recent utterances.

3. I do not think that this address can be regarded as of any great importance or originality, either in

regard to its specific subject, social justice, or in its application to present circumstances.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. O'Donnell.

Discourse of His Holiness PIUS XII

to commemorate the 50th anniversary

of the Encyclical "Rerum Novarum" of Pope Leo XIII

on the Social Question.

Feast of Pentecost, June 1st, 1941.

The feast of Pentecost, that glorious birthday of the Church of Christ, is to Our mind, dear children of the whole world, a welcome and auspicious occasion and one full of high import, on which to address to you, in the midst of the difficulties and strife of the present hour, a message of love, encouragement and comfort. We speak to you at a moment when every energy and force, physical and intellectual, of an ever-increasing section of mankind is being strained, to a degree and intensity never before known, beneath the iron, inexorable law of war; and when from other radio aerials are going forth words full of passion, bitterness, division and strife.

But the aerials of the Vatican Hill, of that ground dedicated to be the uncontaminated source of the Good Tidings and of their beneficent diffusion throughout the world from the place of martyrdom and the tomb of the first Peter, can transmit only words animated with the consoling spirit of that preaching with which on the first Pentecost Day as it came from the lips of St.Peter, Jerusalem resounded and was stirred. It is a spirit of burning apostolic love, a spirit which is conscious of no more vivid desire, no holier joy than that of bringing all, friends and enemies, to the feet of the Crucified One of Calvary, to the tomb of the Glorified Son of God and Redeemer of the human race, to convince all that only in Him, and in the truth taught by Him, and in the love which He, doing good to all and healing all, taught by His example even to sacrificing Himself for the life of the world, can there be found true salvation and lasting happiness for individuals and for peoples.

In this hour, pregnant with events that are known only to the divine

counsels which rule the story of nations and watch over the Church, it is for us, beloved children, a source of sincere joy and gratification in letting you hear the voice of your Common Father, to call you together, so to speak, in a worldwide Catholic meeting, so that you may experience and enjoy in the bond of peace that <u>one heart</u> and <u>one soul</u> (cfr. <u>Acts</u> 4,32) which held together under the impulse of the Holy Spirit, the faithful of Jerusalem on Pentecost Day. As the circumstances created by the war make direct, living contact between the Supreme Pastor and His flock in many cases difficult We greet with all the more gratitude this most expedite bridge which the inventive genius of our age throws across the ether in a flash, to unite across mountains, seas and continents every corner of the earth. And thus what for many is a weapon of war becomes for Us a heavensent means of patient, peaceful apostolate which realises and gives new significance to the words of Holy Scripture: <u>Their sound hath gone forth unto all the earth; and their words unto the ends of the world</u> (<u>Ps</u>.18,5; <u>Rom</u>.10,18). Thus does it seem as if were renewed the miracle of Pentecost, when the different peoples who had assembled in Jerusalem from regions speaking various languages, heard the voice of Peter and the Apostles in their own tongue. With genuine delight We today make use of so wonderful an instrument, in order to call to the attention of the Catholic world a memory worthy of being written in letters of gold on the Calendar of the Church: the fiftieth anniversary of the publication, on May 15, 1891, of the epoch making social Encyclical of Leo XIII the Rerum Novarum.

It was in the profound conviction that the Church has not only the right but even the duty to make an authoritative pronouncement on the social question, that Leo XIII addressed his message to the world. He had no intention of laying down guiding principles of the purely practical, we might say technical side of the social structure; for he was well aware of the fact - as Our immediate predecessor of saintly memory Pius XI pointed

out ten years ago in his commemorative Encyclical, Quadragesimo Anno - that the Church does not claim such a mission. In the general framework of labour, to stimulate the sane and responsible development of all the energies phy= sical and spiritual of individuals and their free organisation, there opens up a wide field of action where the public authority comes in with its in= tegrating and coordinating activity exercised first through the local and professional corporations, and finally in the activity of the State itself, whose higher moderating social authority has the important duty of forestall ing the dislocations of economic balance arising from plurality and diver= gence of clashing interests individual and collective.

It is, on the other hand, the indisputable competence of the Church, on that side of the social order where it meets and enters into contact with the moral order, to decide whether the bases of a given social system are in accord with the unchangeable order which God our Creator and Redeemer has shown us through the Natural Law and Revelation, that two-fold manifestation to which Leo XIII appeals in his Encyclical. And with reason: for the dista= tes of the Natural Law and the truths of Revelation spring forth in a differ ent manner, like two streams of water that do not flow against one another but together, from the same divine source; and the Church, guardian of the supernatural Christian order in which nature and grace converge, must form the consciences even of those who are called upon to find solutions for the problems and the duties imposed by social life. From the form given to Society, whether conforming or not to the divine law, depends and emerges the good or ill of souls, depends, that is, the decision whether men, all called to be revived by the grace of Christ, do actually in the detailed course of their life breathe the healthy vivifying atmosphere of truth and moral virtue or the disease-laden and often fatal air of error and corruption. Before such a thought and such an anticipation, how could the Church, loving Mother that she is, sollicitous for the welfare of her children, remain an indifferent onlooker in their danger, remain silent

or feign not to see or take cognisance of social conditions which, whether one wills it or not, make difficult of practically impossible a Christian life, in conformity with the precepts of the Divine Lawgiver?

Conscious of such a grave responsibility, Leo XIII addressing his Encyclical to the world pointed out to the consciences of Christians the errors and danger of the materialist Socialism conception, the fatal conse= quences of economic Liberalism so often unaware, or forgetful, or contemp= tuous of social duties; and exposed with masterly clarity and wonderful pre cision the principles that were necessary and suitable for improving - gra= dually and peacefully - the material and spiritual lot of the worker.

If, beloved children, you ask Us today, after fifty years from the date of publication of the Encyclical, to what extent the efficacy of his messagecorresponded to its noble intentions, to its thoughts so full of truth, to the beneficent directions understood and suggested by its wise author, We feel that We must answer thus: It is precisely to render to Almighty God from the bottom of Our heart, Our humble thanks for the gift which, fifty years ago, He bestowed on the Church in that Encyclical of His Vicar on earth, and to praise Him for the lifegiving breath of the Spirit which through it, in ever growing measure from that time on, has blown on all mankind, that We on this feast of Pentecost, have decided to address you.

Our Predecessor Pius XI has already exalted, in the first part of his commemorative Encyclical, the splendid crop of good to which the Rerum Novarum like a fertile sowing had given rise. From it sprang forth a Catholic social teaching which gave to the children of the Church, priests and laymen, an orientation and method for social reconstruction which was overflowing with good effects; for through it there arose in the Catholic field numerous and diverse beneficent institutions that were flourishing centres of reciprocal help for themselves and others. What an amount of wellbeing, material and natural, what spiritual and supernatural profit has

come to the workers and their families from the Catholic unions! How efficacious and suited to the need has been the help afforded by the Syndicates and Associations in favour of the agricultural and middle class to relieve their wants, defend them from injustice, and in this way, by soothing passion, to save social peace from disorder!

Nor was this the whole benefit. The Encyclical Rerum Novarum, coming down to the people and greeting them with esteem and love, went deep into the hearts and esteem of the working class, and inspired it with a sense of Christian sentiment and civil dignity; indeed its powerful influence came, with the passage of the years, to expand and spread to such an extent that its norms became almost the common property of all men. And, while the State in the nineteenth century, through excessive exaltation of liberty, considered as its exclusive scope the safeguarding of liberty by the law, Leo XIII admonished it that it had also the duty to interest itself in social welfare, taking care of the entire people and of all its members, especially the weak and the dispossessed, through a generous social program and the creation of a labor code. His call evoked a powerful response; and it is a clear duty of justice to recognise the progress which has been achieved in the lot of workers through the pains taken by Civil Authorities in many lands. Hence was it well said that the Rerum Novarum became the Magna Charta of Christian social endeavour.

Meanwhile there was passing a half century which has left deep furrows, and grevious disturbance in the domain of Nations and Society. The questions which social and especially economic changes and upheavals offered for moral consideration after the Rerum Novarum, have been treated with penetrating acumen by Our immediate Predecessor in the Encyclical Quadra= gesimo Anno. The ten years that have followed it have been no less fraught with surprises in social and economic life than the years before it, and have finally poured their dark and turbulent waters into the sea of a war whose unforeseen currents may affect our economy and society.

What problems and what particular undertakings, some perhaps entirely novel,our social life will present to the care of the Church at the end of this conflict which sets so many peoples against one another,it is difficult at the moment to trace or foresee.If,however,the future has its roots in the past,if the experience of &&& renent years is to be our guide for the future, We feel We may avail Ourselves of this commemoration to give some further directive moral principles on three fundamental values of social and economic life;and We shall do this,animated by the very spirit of Leo XIII and unfolding his views which were more than prophetic,presaging the social evolution of the day.These three fundamental values,which are clo= sely connected one with the other,mutually complementary and dependent, are: the use of material goods, labour and the family.

Use of Material goods:

The Encyclical Rerum Novarum expounds, on the question of property and man's sustenance, principles which have lost nothing of their inherent vigour with the passage of time,and today,fifty years after,strike their roots deeper and retain their innate vitality. In Our Encyclical Sertum Laetitiae directed to the bishops of the United States of America We called the attention of all to the basic idea of these principles which consists, as We said, in the assertion of the unquestionable need "that the goods, which were created by God for all men, should flow equally to all, according to the principles of justice and charity".

Every man, as a living being gifted with reason,has in fact from nature the fundamental right to make use of the material goods of the earth, while it is left to the will of man and to the juridical statutes of nations to regulate in greater detail the actuation of this right.This individual right cannot in any way be suppressed, even by other clear and undisputed rights over material goods. Undoubtedly the natural order, deriving from God, demands also private property and the free reciprocal commerce of goods by interchange and gift, as well as the functioning of

the State as a control over both these institutions. But all this remains subordinated to the natural scope of material goods and cannot emancipate itself from the first and fundamental right which concedes their use to all ~~to the~~ men; but it should rather serve to make possible the actuation of this right in conformity with its scope. Only thus can we and must we secure that private property and the use of material goods bring to society peace and prosperity and long life, that they no longer set up precarious conditions which will give rise to struggles and jealousies, and which are left to the mercy of the blind interplay of force and weakness.

The native right to the use of material goods, intimately linked as it is to the dignity and other rights of the human person, together with the statutes mentioned above, provides man with a secure material basis of the highest import, on which to rise to the fulfilment, with reasonable liberty, of his moral duties. The safe guardianship of this right will ensure the personal dignity of man, and will facilitate for him the attention to and fulfilment of that sum of stable duties and decisions for which he is directly responsible to his Creator. Man has in truth the entirely personal duty to preserve and order to perfection his material and spiritual life, so as to secure the religious and moral scope which God has assigned to all men, and has given them as the supreme norm obliging always and everywhere, before all other duties.

To safeguard the inviolable sphere of the rights of the human person and to facilitate the fulfilment of his duties should be the essential office of every public authority. Does not this flow from that genuine concept of the common good which the State is called upon to promote? Hence it follows that the care of such a common good does not imply a power so extensive over the members of the community that in virtue of it the public authority can interfere with the evolution of that individual activity which We have just described, decide on the beginning or the

ending of human life, determine at will the manner of his physical, spiritual, religious and moral movements in opposition to the personal duties or rights of man, and to this end abolish or deprive of efficacy his natural rights to material goods. To deduce such extension of power from the care of the common good would be equivalent to overthrowing the very meaning of the word common good, and falling into the error that the proper scope of man on earth is society, that society is an end in itself, that man has no other life which awaits him beyond that which ends here below.

Likewise the national economy, as it is the product of the men who work together in the community of the State, has no other end than to secure without interruption the material conditions in which the individual life of the citizens may fully develop. Where this is secured in a permanent way, a people will be, in a true sense, economically rich because the general well-being, and consequently the personal right of all to the use of worldly goods is thus actuated in conformity with the purpose willed by the Creator.

From this, beloved children, it will be easy for you to conclude that the economic riches of a people do not properly consist in the abundance of goods, measured according to a purely and solely material calculation of their worth, but in the fact that such an abundance represents and offers really and effectively the material basis sufficient for the proper personal development of its members. If such a just distribution of goods were not secured, or were effected only imperfectly, the real scope of national economy would not be attained; for, although there were at hand a lucky abundance of goods to dispose of, the people, in not being called upon to share them would not be economically rich but poor. Suppose on the other hand that such a distribution is effected genuinely and permanently and you will see a people even if it disposes of less goods, making itself economically sound.

These fundamental concepts regarding the riches and poverty of peoples, it seems to Us particularly opportune to set before you today, when there is a tendency to measure and judge such riches and poverty by balance sheets and by purely quantitative criteria of the need or the redundance of goods. If instead, the scope of the national economy is correctly considered, then it will become a guide for the efforts of statesmen and peoples, and will enlighten them to walk spontaneously along a way which does not call for continual exactions in goods and blood, but will give fruits of peace and general welfare.

Labour:

With the use of material goods you yourselves, dear children, see how labour is connected. The Rerum Novarum teaches that there are two essential characteristics of human labour: it is personal and it is necessary. It is personal, because it is achieved through the exercise of man's particular forces; it is necessary, because without it one cannot secure what is indispensable to life; and man has a natural grave individual obligation to maintain life. To the personal duty to labour imposed by nature corresponds and follows the natural right of each individual to make of labour the means to provide for his own life and that of his children; so profoundly is the empire of nature ordained for the preservation of man.

But note that such a duty and the corresponding right to work is imposed on and conceded to the individual in the first instance by nature, and not by Society, as if man were nothing more than a mere slave or official of the community. From that it follows that the duty and the right to organise the labour of the people belongs above all to the people immediately interested; the employers and the workers. If they do not fulfil their functions or cannot because of special extraordinary contingencies fulfil them, then it falls back on the State to intervene

in the field of labour and in the division and distribution of work according to the form and measure that the common good properly understood demands.

In any case, every legitimate and beneficial interference of the State in the field of labour should be such as to safeguard and respect its personal character, both in the broad outlines and as far as possible, in what concerns its execution; and this will happen, if the norms of the State do not abolish or render impossible the exercise of other rights and duties equally personal; such as the right to give God His due worship; the right to marry; the right of husband and wife, of father and mother to lead a married domestic life; the right to a reasonable liberty in the choice of a state of life and the fulfilment of a true vocation; a personal right, this last, if ever there was one, belonging to the spirit of man, and sublime when the higher impressriptible rights of God and of the Church meet, as in the choice and fulfilment of the priestly and religious vocations.

The Family:

According to the teaching of the Rerum Novarum, nature itself has closely joined private property with the existence of human society and its true civilisation, and in a very special manner with the existence and development of the family. Such a link appears more than obvious. Should not private property secure for the father of a family the healthy liberty he needs in order to fulfil the duties assigned him by the Creator regarding the physical, spiritual and religious welfare of the family?

In the family the nation finds the natural and fecund roots of its greatness and power. If private property has to conduce to the good of the family, all public standards, and especially those of the State which re= gulate its possession, must not only make possible and preserve such a function - a function in the natural order under certain aspects superior

to all others - but must also perfect it ever more.

A so-called civil progress,would, in fact, be unnatural, which - either through the excessive burdens imposed, or through exaggerated direct interference - were to render private property void of significance, practically taking from the family and its head the freedom to follow the scope set by God for the perfection of family life.

Of all the goods that can be the object of private property, none is more conformable to nature, according to the teaching of the Rerum Novarum, than the land, the holding in which the family lives,and from the products of which it draws all or part of its subsistence. And it is in the spirit of the Rerum Novarum to state that, as a rule, only that stability which is rooted in one's own holding,makes of the family the vital and most perfect and fecund cell of society,joining up in a brilliant manner in its pro= gressive cohesion the present and future generations. If today the concept and the creation of vital spaces is at the centre of social and political aims, should not one, before all else, think of the vital space of the family and free it of the fetters of conditions which do not permit even to formulate the idea of a homestead of one's own?

Our planet, with all its extent of oceans and seas and lakes, with mountains and planes covered with eternal snows and ice, with great deserts and tractless lands is not, all the same, without habitable regions and vital spaces, now abandoned to wild natural vegetation,and well suited to be cultivated by man to satisfy his needs and civil activities;and more than once it is inevitable that some families, migrating from one spot or another, should go elsewhere in search of a new homeland. Then,according to the teaching of the Rerum Novarum the right of the family to a vital space is recognised. When this happens,emigration attains its natural scope,as experience often shows; We mean the more favourable distribution of men on the earth's surface,suitable to colonies of agricultural workers; that surface which God created and prepared for the use of all. If the two

parties, those who agree to leave their native land, and those who agree to admit the newcomers, remain anxious to eliminate as far as possible all obstacles to the birth and growth of real confidence between the country of emigration and that of immigration, all those effected by such a transference of people and places will profit by the transaction: the families will receive a plot of ground which will be native land for them in the true sense of the word: the thickly inhabited countries will be relieved, and their peoples will acquire new friends in foreign countries; and the States which receive the emigrants will acquire industrious citizens. In this way the nations which give and those which receive will both contribute to the increased [illegible] man and the progress of human culture.

These are the principles, concepts and norms, beloved children, with which We should wish even now to share in the future organisation of that new order which the world expects and hopes will arise from the seething ferment of the present struggle, to set the peoples at rest in peace and justice. What remains for us but, in the spirit of Leo XIII and in accord=ance with his advice and purpose, to exhort you to continue to promote the work which the last generation of your brothers and sisters has begun with such staunch courage? Do not let die in your midst and fade away the insistent call of the two Pontiffs of the Social Encyclicals, that voice which indicates to the faithful in the supernatural regeneration of mankind the moral obligation to cooperate in the arrangement of Society, and especially of economic life, exhorting those who share in this life to action no less than the State itself. Is not this a sacred duty for every Christian? Do not let the external difficulties put you off, dear children; do not be upset by the obstacle of the growing paganism of public life. Do not let yourselves be misled by the manufacturers of errors and unhealthy theories, those deplorable trends not of increase

but of decomposition and of corruption of the religious life; currents of thought which hold that since redemption belongs to the sphere of super- natural grace, and is therefore exclusively the work of God, there is no need for us to cooperate on earth. Oh lamentable ignorance fo the work of God! Professing themselves to be wise they became fools (Rom. 1,22). As if the first efficacy of grace were not to cooperate with our sihcere efforts to fulfil every day the commandments of God, as individuals and as members of society; as if for the last two thousand years there had not lived nor persevered in the soul of the Church the sense of the collec tive responsibility of all for all; so that souls were moved and are moved even to heroic charity, the souls of the monks who cultivated the land, those who freed slaves, those who healed the sick, those who spread the faith, civilisation and science to all ages and all peoples, to create social conditions which alone are capable of making possible and feasible for all a life worthy of a man and of a Christian. But you, who are conscious and convinced of this sacred responsibility, must not ever be satisfied with this widespread public mediocrity, in which the majority of men cannot, except by heroic acts of virtue, observe the divine precepts which are always and in all cases inviolable.

If between the ideal and its realisation there appears even now an evident lack of proportion; if there have been failures, common indeed to all human activity, if divergencies of view arose on the way followed or to be followed, all this should not make you depressed or slow up your step or give rise to lamentations or recriminations; nor can it make you forget the consoling fact that the inspired message of the Pope of the Rerum Novarum sent forth a living and clear stream of strong social sense, sincere and disinterested; a stream which if it be now partly perhaps covered by a landslide of divergent and overpowering events, to-morrow, when the ruin of this world hurricane is cleared, at the outset of that reconstruction of a new social order, which is a desire worthy of God and

of man, will infuse new coyrage and a new wave of profusion and growth in the garden of human culture. Keep burning the noble flame of a brotherly social spirit which fifty years ago, was rekindled in the hearts of your fathers by the luminous and illuminating torch of the words of Leo XIII; do not allow or permit it to lack for nourishment; let it flare up through your homage; and not die, quenched by an unworthy, timid,cautious inaction in face of the needs of the poor among our brethren, or overcome by the dust and dirt carried by the whirlwind of the anti-Christian or non-Christian spirit. Nourish it, keep it alive, increase it; make this flame burn more brightly; carry it wherever a groan of suffering, a lament of misery, a cry of pain reaches you; feed it ever more with the heat of a love drawn from the Heart of Your Redeemer, to which the month that now begins is consecrated. Go to that Divine Heart meek and humble, refuge of all comfort in the fatigue and responsibility of the active life; it is the Heart of Him who to every act genuine and pure done in His name and in His spirit, in favour of the suffering, the heard-pressed, of those abandoned by the world, or those deprived of all goods and fortune, has promised the eternal reward of the blessed: you blessed of my Father! What you have done to the least of my brethren, you have done it do me!

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1941

VATICAN

R 6610

30 JUN 1941

Registry Number } R 6610/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See

No. 44

Dated 4th June, 1941

Received in Registry } 30th June, 1941

R : Vatican

Article in the 'Regime Fascista" on the Pope's broadcast address on 1st June.

Refers to Holy See despatch No.40 of 2nd June, (R 6608/30/57). Reports that S. Farinacci's "Regime Fascista" on 3rd June, had an editorial on the Pope's broadcast address on 1st June, which stated that "we are sure that in the United States and in England, and in those political circles of the Vatican where the anti-Italian combination of Mgr. Montini, Count Dalla Torre, Gonella, Bonzuffi and Anglo-Saxon Ambassadors is only too well known, it will be said that this message must again ring out as a warning to the totalitarian regimes". Gives details of the position of these Italians.

Last Paper.

R 6608

References.

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R 6619

30 JUN 1941

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY.
June 4th 1941.

No. 44
(8/20/41)

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R6619/30/57

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 40 of June 2nd, I have the honour to report that Signor Farinacci's "Regime Fascista" of June 3rd had an editorial on the Pope's broadcast address of June 1st in commemoration of the Encyclical Rerum Novarum, which opened with the following words:-

"On Sunday the Holy Father desired to remind the world, with his lofty words, of the Encyclical, Rerum Novarum, of Leo XIII. We are sure that in the United States and in England, and in those political circles of the Vatican where the anti-Italian combination of Monsignor Montini, Count Dalla Torre, Gonella, Bonzuffi and the Anglo-Saxon Ambassadors is known, and only too well known, it will be said that the day before yesterday's message must again ring out as a warning to the totalitarian regimes."

2. Monsignor Montini is the influential Assistant Under Secretary of State at the Secretariat of State and a particular personal friend of the Pope; Count Dalla Torre is the owner and editor of the "Osservatore Romano" and a cherished enemy of Signor Farinacci; Professor Gonella is the author of the one time acute and objective leading articles in the "Osservatore" which were largely responsible for the enormous increase in the paper's sales prior to Italian entry into the war and for its subsequent muzzling; Signor Bozuffi is, I understand, a member of the "Osservatore" staff; and "the Anglo-Saxon Ambassadors" are Mr. Harold Tittmann and myself,

generously...

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

generously promoted by Signor Farinacci.

3. The rest of the article is of no particular interest.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Ouseley.

41

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6645

1 JUL 1941

1941

Registry Number } R 6645/30/57

FROM

Reuters.

No.

Dated

Received in Registry } 1st July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Pope's speech on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

Gives a report on this speech by the Pope, the keynote of which was a call for confidence in Divine Justice, and trust in God. His Holiness said that the triumph of evil cannot endure. The hour of good will come with freedom and joy, and will permit the resurrection of justice and peace.

Last Paper.

R 6610

References.

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See within - Transocean, Comm'd 29 June

COLCK 2/7.

Mr Rapsdale.

Ans R.

3/VII

(Action completed.)

DC 9/7

(Index.)

~~DC~~ 31/7

Next Paper.

R6717

18560 2/39 F.O.P

(0200) No. 109. Vatican City. Preparations for Pope's speech which is being made on the occasion of Peter and Paul Day on Sunday have been concluded. "Osservatoro Romano" published the programme on the front page and announced that the speech will be broadcast in several languages. The speech is considered important in Vatican circles. The same circles are as usual reserved about the contents of the speech, but it is believed the speech will deal with political events since the war with Soviet Russia. Some reliable Vatican source is even under the impression that the Pope may make important remarks concerning the fight against atheism.

Mr Knight

R 6645
JUL 1941

1506

POPE CALLS FOR TRUST IN DIVINE JUSTICE

SUNDAY

A CALL FOR CONFIDENCSIN DIVINE JUSTICE WAS THE KEYNOTE OF AN ADDRESS BROADCAST BY THE POPE FROM THE VATICAN TODAY, SAYS REUTER.

THE OCCASION OF THE ADDRESS WAS THE FEAST OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL.

AFTER SPEAKING OF THE WRETCHEDNESS OF THE POPULATIONS OF EUROPE UNDER THE YOKE OF WAR, THE POPE SAID: "WE ASK 'HOW CAN GOD ALLOW SUCH HORRORS?' CHRIST REPLIED TO THIS QUESTIONS THROUGH ST PETER: 'THY WAYS ARE NOT MY WAYS'"

IT WAS NECESSARY TO TRUST IN GOD AND TO RELY ON DIVINE JUSTICE. "THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL CANNOT ENDURE. THE HOUR OF GOOD WILL COME, WITH FREEDOM AND JOY, AND WILL PERMIT THE RESURRECTION OF JUSTICE AND PEACE."

THE POPE CONCLUDED WITH A BLESSING"FOR THE ITALIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR GLORIOUS CATHOLIC TRADITION, AND THE WHOLE WORLD WHICH IS SO DEAR TO US ".

HIS HOLINESS THEN GAVE THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION.

REUTER

MCZ7

CORRECTION TO FORGOING .

PLEASE READ... CHRIST REPLIED TO THIS QUESTION

'THY WAYS ARE NOT MY WAYS'"

ETC.

1510

42

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 6717

3 JUL 1941

Registry Number R 6717/30/57.

FROM Mr. Nevile Butler, Washington to Mr. Nichols.

Dated 26th June, 1941.

Received in Registry 3rd July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Appointment of Mr. Harold Tittman as United States Representative to the Vatican.

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 14th June (R 5850/30/57), about Mr. Harold Tittman. Has read the greater part of this letter to Mr. Dunn at the State Department, including the text of Mr. Osborne's despatch, and the Foreign Office addition to it. Mr. Dunn was very glad to have the Foreign Office appreciations and agrees that Mr. Tittman is a man of unusual ability and courage..

Last Paper.

R 6645

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

DAH) Mr Osborne Holy See, from Mr Nichols 11th July

(Minutes.)

Everybody is pleased. Dft. to Mr Osborne herewith.

W.L.C.Knight

5/7.

IN 10/7

(Action completed.)

DC 11/7

(Index.)

AS 31/7

Next Paper.

R 6734

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Encl.
1015

Rec'd. July 2.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 26th, 1941

My dear Phil,

Your (R 5850/30/57) of June 14th about Harold Tittman. I read the greater part of your letter to Dunn at the State Department this afternoon, including the text of D'Arcy Osborne's encomium and your addition to it. Dunn was very glad to have your appreciations. He agrees that Tittman is a man of unusual ability and courage.

I was glad to be able to deliver your message as we have lately had to complain discreetly but strongly of one or two United States representatives abroad and Mr. Tittman provided a pleasant weight in the other scale.

Yours ever,

Harold Butler

P. B. B. Nichols, Esq., M.C.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

R 6717
3 JUL 1941

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. R6717/30/57

WRCK

Draft.

Mr. Osborne
Holy See
(From
Mr. Nicholls).

By air bag.

OUT FILE

11 July

My dear D'Arcy,

I enclose a copy of Neville Butler's reply to my letter about Harold Tittmann referred to in para. 3 of my letter of June 14th to you.

PN
1917

Your letter & mine seem to have been useful and I am correspondingly glad.

Yours.
(sd) Phil N.

11 ~

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OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

(R 6717/30/57). 11th July, 1941.

Dear D'Arcy.

I enclose a copy of Nevile Butler's reply to my letter about Harold Tittman referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter of the 14th June, to you.

Your letter & mine seem to have been useful & I am correspondingly glad.

Yours.
(sd) Phil Nichol.

F. D'A. G. Osborne, Esq.,
C.M.G.
Holy See.

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1941

R

VATICAN

R 6734

4 JUL 1941

1486

Registry Number R 6734/30/57

FROM British Broadcasting Corporation communicated

No.

Dated

Received in Registry 4th July, 1941

R: Vatican

Article in the "Regime Fascista" on the Pope's Whit Sunday Speech.

A leading editorial article in Farinacci's paper "Regime Fascista" of 3rd June, refers to the Pope's Whit Sunday speech, expressing the certainty that in the United States, Britain, and even in Vatican political circles, where as everybody knows, there is an anti-Italian union between Mgr. Montini, Count Dalla Torre, Gonella, Bozuffi, and the Anglo-Saxon Ambassadors, the speech will be construed as a fresh warning in the totalitarian regimes. The article goes on to discuss the "Rerum Novarum" of Pope Leo XIII.

Last Paper.

R 6717

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

This is the article referred to by Mr Osborne in his despatch No. 44 of June 4th (R 6610/30/57)

Farinacci is the principal "mangeur de curés" in the Fascist party, but is at present engaged in writing of the Axis' "Christian Crusade" against Communism!

AVER. 10/7

WRCK 8/7.

Mr Randall

Central Dept.

GWB 11/7.

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
RC 15/7	8th 31/7

Next Paper.

R 6765

18560 2/39 F.O.P

R 6734
4 JUL 1941

H I

ITALY

149

FARINACCI, THE UNCOMPROMISING CATHOLIC.

(1) A leading editorial article in Farinacci's paper Regime Fascista, 3.6.41., referring to the Pope's Whit Sunday speech, expresses the certainty that "in the United States, Britain, and even in Vatican political circles, where, as everybody knows, there is an anti-Italian union between Mgr. Montini, Count Dalla Torre, Gonella, Bozuffi and the Anglo-Saxon Ambassadors (sic), the speech will be construed as a fresh warning to the totalitarian régimes."

The article goes on to recall the terrible conditions obtaining in Europe, especially in Italy, when Leo XIII's Encyclical "Rerum Novarum" was published. Revolts, strikes, social hatred, slavery of labour, unbridled liberty, shameless egotism of the capitalists showed beyond doubt that the democratic régime was contrary "to social peace, the well-being of the people and moral life."

For these reasons in 1891 Leo XIII in the Encyclical "Rerum Novarum" appealed for collaboration between capital and labour; he upheld the necessity of State intervention to avert strikes and to improve the relations between the various classes and categories; he suggested the setting up of appropriate corporations as instruments of harmony and appeasement between conflicting interests. Leo XIII was a pioneer; "and Pius XII, recalling his great predecessor, has implicitly recognised that all the work accomplished by Fascism has not been contrary to those warnings. The same may be said of Germany."

In other countries, particularly in Britain and the United States, the people are still divided into two clearly-defined classes, the rich and the poor, the oppressors and the oppressed. In New York and in London nothing has been done for the working classes, and the Jewish ruling classes treat and regard the workers as goym, as beasts.

Leo XIII, the article goes on to say, was anti-Liberal, anti-democratic, anti-Socialist; he was, above all, an intransigent Catholic, "as we feel we are, with great humility and with equal determination." Finally, Leo XIII denounced secret societies; his Encyclical "Humanum Genus" dealt with the dangers of secret societies and freemasonry. Naturally, he would never have imagined that, under a Jewish régime, the order of St. Gregory the Great would be conferred on Jews and Freemasons; nor would he have allowed that Roosevelt, the trusted representative of Freemasons and Jews, should be so profoundly admired by certain "Vatican (Vaticaneschi) Catholics". Leo XIII would condemn the speeches of Eden and Roosevelt, "who claim the right to speak in the name of God and Christianity." "In short, Leo XIII would say, if he were living, that this war is his war."

H II

REFUTATION OF BRITISH ECONOMIC PROPAGANDA.

(2) The Piccolo, 22.5.41., in common with other newspapers, publishes the following note denouncing "the grotesque deformation" by British propaganda of the economic problems.

Whenever the future looks dark and stormy for England, British propaganda endeavours to present to the world a rose-coloured picture of things to come. The following are some of the hypocritical arguments put forward by Britain. The obstacles in the way of international trade have convinced producers throughout the world that their interests are inter-dependent. The world could produce enough to guarantee a reasonable standard of living for all. The main task of the Governments should merely be to organise the production and distribution of goods. The best brains are already applied to the study of this problem. This is not all: the close bonds uniting Britain and the United States will favour the solution of the great problems after the war. Finally, the difficulties of the war have enabled Britain to establish closer contacts with the South American Republics.

Never before had British propaganda, in her customary misrepresentations, attempted so grotesque a deformation of the existing economic problems.

Is there anyone who is not aware that the deviation and interruption of the great trade routes are due to Britain's arbitrary will? Who is preventing the transport and distribution of the enormous quantities of foodstuffs and raw materials lying in the warehouses and along the quays of the great producing countries across the sea?

From the economic standpoint, the Axis Powers are fighting this war to free all the countries from this unjustified and unjustifiable abuse of power. All the countries, including the South American Republics with whom Britain claims to have now established closer contacts, know that their present critical economic position is due precisely to the suppression of their normal trade exchanges with Europe; they know that all this is the result of the British blockade, "which represents a flagrant violation of international law."

"No-one in the world will accept the thesis that, after the war, it will rest with Britain and the United States to create a new order in world trade, for this would mean a pure and simple return to the old order or, rather, the old disorder, in which the two great plutocratic Powers controlling the raw materials laid down their laws and imposed their monopolies, subjecting the economic and political life of the other countries to their lust for wealth."

COTTON PRODUCTION.

(3) Hilversum, 30.6.41. While in 1938 the output of cotton reached 7,000 tons, it is hoped in 1941 to reach an output of 10,000 tons from Italy alone.

44

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6785
6 JUL 1941

151

Registry Number R 6785/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly (Berne)

No. 1484 Cypher.

Dated 5th July, 1941.

Received in Registry 6th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Pope and Soviet Conflict.

Following from Mr. Osborne, Holy See, telegram No. 130 of 30th June. Refers Holy See telegram No. 125 (R 6681/200/57). The Pope said that war against Russia was being accepted as a religious crusade in many countries, notably Italy. After reading portions of Prime Minister's speech and pointing out that attack on Russia was nothing but opportunism on Hitler's part, the Pope, while not rejecting argument, insisted on existence of the crusade sentiment. Has received strong confirmation that this is true particularly of Italy, Spain and South America.

Last Paper.

R6734

References.

R6681/200/57

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Entered copy of (Minutes.) 89 to Holy See with Central Dept

Mr Osborne should soon afterwards have received F.O. Tel. No. 89 of June 27 (C), which was sent also to Madrid, Lisbon, Berne and the principal Latin American Countries. The Pope's rather reserved attitude, as now revealed, shows how much that telegram was needed, and Mr Osborne may be trusted to make the best possible use of the material supplied.

W.R.C.Knight
9/7.

Central Dept.
Mr Rapsdale.
AWK.
14/7

JN
9/7

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 15/7	8/21/7

Next Paper.

R6796

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

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R

R 6785
6 JUL 1941

[CYPHER].

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

From: SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 1484.
July 4th, 1941.

D. 6.30 p.m. July 4th, 1941.
R. 2.25 a.m. July 5th, 1941.

yyyyyyy

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 130 June 30th.

My telegram No. 125. R 6681/200/57

The Pope informed me that war against Russia was being accepted as a religious crusade in many countries and notably in Italy. I read to him portions of Prime Minister's speech and pointed out that the attack on Russia was nothing but cynical [sic] opportunism on Hitler's part. He did not reject this argument but insisted on the existence of the crusade sentiment.

5. I have received strong confirmation from another excellent source that this is true particularly of Italy, Spain and South America.

6 JUL 1941 REGISTRY

45

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6796

7 JUL 1941

153

Registry Number } R 6796/30/57.

FROM Reuters.

No.

Dated

Received in Registry } 7th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Catholic views in the U.S. on aid for Russia : the Pope's speech.

Reuter reports state that from published comment it would appear that Catholic opinion in the U.S. with regard to Russia is sharply conflicting. There is some strong support for American aid to the Soviet Union, a number of intellectual and military leaders seeing Nazism as a greater immediate menace. Certain Catholic war veterans and the weekly publication "America" oppose aid for Russia, though the latter writes : - "It is significant that regardless of the Italian entry into the war (against Russia) no indication has been received from the Holy See that the Holy Father is endorsing it as a crusade."

Last Paper.

R 6785

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Entered for record.

WLCK 10/7.

(Action completed.) DC 10/7

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 6797

18560 2/39 F.O.P

0557

CATHOLIC VIEWS IN U S ON AID FOR RUSSIA

DIVERGENCIES OF OPINION

BUT NO VATICAN CRUSADE AGAINST SOVIETS EMPHASISED

R 6796

7 JUL 1941

NEW YORK, SATURDAY

FROM PUBLISHED COMMENT IT WOULD APPEAR THAT CATHOLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES WITH REGARD TO RUSSIA IS SHARPLY CONFLICTING .

THERE IS SOME STRONG SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN AID TO THE SOVIET UNION, A NUMBER OF INTELLECTUAL AND MILITARY LEADERS SEEING NAZISM AS A GREATER IMMEDIATE MENACE.

CERTAIN CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS AND THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION "AMERICA" OPPOSE AID FOR RUSSIA BUT NEVERTHELESS THE LATTER WRITES : "IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT REGARDLESS OF THE ITALIAN ENTRY INTO THE WAR (AGAINST RUSSIA) NO INDICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE HOLY SEE THAT THE HOLY FATHER IS ENDORSING IT AS A CRUSADE."

THE SPEECH MADE BY THE POPE ON SUNDAY HAS NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE CATHOLIC ORGANS, BUT PRESS REACTION HAS EMPHASISED ITS NON-COMMITTAL NATURE AS PROOF THAT THE CHURCH IS NOT SUPPORTING AN ANTI-SOVIET CRUSADE. REUTER

MORE 9

NEW YORK - CATHOLIC VIEWS ON U S ON AID FOR RUSSIA 2

THREE RADIO COMMENTATORS ARE QUOTED BY THE NEW YORK NEWSPAPER "P M" AS SHARING THE VIEW THAT THE POPE DOES NOT REGARD GERMANY'S WAR AGAINST RUSSIA AS A HOLY CRUSADE.

FIRST, RAYMOND GRAM SWING: "THE POPE DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY THAT THE FASCISTS OF MANY COUNTRIES HOPED HE WOULD. HITLER'S CRUSADE HAS STARTED OUT DISMALLY. HE HAS GOT THE RUSSIAN CHURCH INTO A WAR FOR RUSSIA, AND HAS FAILED TO WIN THE SUPPORT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH."

QUINCY HOWE: "IN SO FAR AS THE POPE'S ADDRESS HAS A POLITICAL MEANING, IT SUGGESTED THAT HIS HOLINESS NO LONGER CONSIDERS THE KREMLIN THE BAD THING HE ONCE THOUGHT IT WAS."

BURNET HERSHEY: "THE POPE NATURALLY DEPLORED ATHEISM AND THE RISE OF BARBARISM BUT MADE NOT A SINGLE REFERENCE TO RUSSIA AS A MENACE."

PROTESTANT OPINION WITH REGARD TO THE GERMAN ATTACK ON

REGARD GERMANY'S WAR AGAINST RUSSIA AS A HOLY CRUSADE.

FIRST, RAYMOND GRAM SWING: "THE POPE DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY THAT THE FASCISTS OF MANY COUNTRIES HOPED HE WOULD. HITLER'S CRUSADE HAS STARTED OUT DISMALLY. HE HAS GOT THE RUSSIAN CHURCH INTO A WAR FOR RUSSIA, AND HAS FAILED TO WIN THE SUPPORT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH."

QUINCY HOWE: "IN SO FAR AS THE POPE'S ADDRESS HAS A POLITICAL MEANING, IT SUGGESTED THAT HIS HOLINESS NO LONGER CONSIDERS THE KREMLIN THE BAD THING HE ONCE THOUGHT IT WAS."

Quite wrong

BURNET HERSHEY: "THE POPE NATURALLY DEPLORED ATHEISM AND THE RISE OF BARBARISM BUT MADE NOT A SINGLE REFERENCE TO RUSSIA AS A MENACE."

PROTESTANT OPINION WITH REGARD TO THE GERMAN ATTACK ON RUSSIA HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY DEFINED, BUT A TYPICAL COMMENT APPEARS IN "CHRISTIANITY AND THE CRISIS": "IT PROVES THE FUTILITY OF AN APPEASEMENT POLICY AND COLLABORATION WITH HITLER, AND MAY HAVE A WHOLESOME EFFECT ON THOSE APOSTLES OF A NEGOTIATED PEACE. THIS IS NO TIME TO RELAX THE EFFORTS OF A UNITED OPPOSITION AGAINST NAZISM." REUTER

MORE 9

NEW YORK - CATHOLIC VIEWS IN U S ON AID FOR RUSSIA 3

SUCCINCT COMMENT IS CONTAINED IN THE "WATCHMAN AND EXAMINER". "WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER MEDIATION COULD HAVE GOT RID OF NAPOLEON , THOUGH IT WAS SERIOUSLY TRIED, BUT THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO DID." REUTER

MC 9

46

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6797

7 JUL 1941

155

Registry Number } R 6797/50/57

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See) to Mr. Nichols.

No.

Dated 13th June,

Received in Registry } 7th July, 1941

R: Vatican.

Pope's attitude to the International situation.

Gives details of his audience with the Pope, in which the question of the Vatican Radio was discussed and His Majesty's Minister handed the Pope his memorandum on the subject. The Pope also spoke of his interviews with the Duke of Spoleto and with Pavelic, saying that he had received both in their private capacities. The international situation was also discussed, and the Pope said that he would be grateful to receive daily bulletins from His Majesty's Minister. As this is impossible, it is proposed to submit them three times instead of twice a week in future.

Last Paper.

R 6796

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Mr. Osborne, Vatican from Mr Nichols. July 21.
Mr Kelly, Berne from. Mr Nichols July 21.

(*Minutes.*)

The Pope must indeed be a charmer, but we cannot accept his description of Pavelić as a much maligned man who had nothing to do with King Alexander's murder. His Holiness' keen interest in our news bulletins is gratifying. We can, I think, tell Mr Osborne that we feel sure he cannot do more than he is doing with such excellent effect.

W.R.C.Knight 10/7

C.J. 24/7

Central Dept.

Mr Rendall.

Any R. 16/8

D.I.D....

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 1/9	DC 24/11

Next Paper.

R 6819

18560 2/39 F.O.P

D.I.D.

Please see marked passage on page 3 of this letter. I should have thought there was every advantage in Mr. Osborne passing as much of these telegrams as he can consistent with security. Are not the items which are secret so marked? And are there not standing instructions as to use which can be made of each paragraph according to its prefix? I should be inclined to instruct Mr. Osborne to go as far ahead as he can, subject always to the prefixes, in passing on information. Personally I believe we can trust the Cardinal Secretary of State and the Pope, but many people may, I suppose, hold a contrary view.

Private Secretary.

You will remember that we recently asked Mr. Osborne whether he would like Mr. Leigh-Smith back again, but it occurs to me, after re-reading this letter, that what he really needs perhaps is a cypher officer. Do you think we could suggest this to him? I think there might be less difficulty in getting a cypher officer in than in getting in anyone else except, of course, Mr. Leigh-Smith, who is already accredited to the Vatican. We could any way try.

Agree. Thought not (very) already on the Vatican staff as Dr L-S is, a cypher officer would have difficulty in getting in. (as 16.)

In general when we answer this letter I think we had better leave Mr. Osborne under no illusions whatever that we think the Pope has behaved disgracefully in receiving Pavelitch, and that we are shocked to hear that His Holiness believes Pavelitch to be a much maligned man. I said as much to the Apostolic Delegate the other day, who, I think, in his heart agrees that the Pope made a great mistake in receiving Pavelitch.

Communications Department.

D Nicholls

July 14th, 1941.

I attach papers which help to show how we started sending the Intredept to the Vatican. (see particularly flag E).

As far as I can remember, no specific instructions were sent to Mr. Osborne for handling information contained in Intredepts. It was felt that, as he had been accustomed to handling Intelo (~~is when~~ received via the Embassy [redacted] at Rome) and as the same

the same instructions apply equally to Inlelo and Interdepts, it would be unnecessary to send special instructions for dealing with Interdepts.

The instructions in force generally are (a) Paragraphs marked "Secret" are for the information of the head of the Mission and members of his staff only. (b) Paragraphs not marked "Secret" may be used in official circles, but may not be given to the press.

In case ~~[illegible] doubts~~ Mr. Osborne has doubts as to what he may pass on to the Cardinal Secretary of State or the Pope, it might be well to send him a reminder on the lines of the preceding paragraph. At the same time I do not think he will have let any particularly dangerous cat out of the bag, because most secret information is generally excluded from the Vaticans Interdept.

There is one fresh point which may be raised here. Up till now, the Vaticans Interdept has been abbreviated to include only information covering Europe, ~~[illegible]~~ the Near East,

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Near East, and North Africa. In view of Mr. Osborne's interest in these telegrams and the use to which he can put them, I suggest that it might be worth while extending their range to cover the more important turns and twists of events in the Far East as well.

R.t.w. Sloan.
15/7.

I agree that in view of Mr. Osborne's interest in the versions of the Interdept telegrams which we send him, their range might be extended to cover the Far East, also North and South America. However most secret information must not be included.

I understand that the Legation at Berne have arrangements for taking down the B.B.C. news bulletins and other wireless emissions from here. They also receive guidance and other telegrams from the Ministry of Information. It occurs to me that they might, instead of sending Mr. Osborne their bulletins, send him a daily en clair telegram which he could pass on to the Pope and thus provide His Holiness with "hot" truth.

V. Cavendish Bentinck.

16th July, 1941.

I think I can arrange to find a temporary secretary* — if we can get them there! provided* they are of course the amount of work justifies it. I cannot!

W.L.Dennys
17/7

Drafts to Mr. Osborne and Mr. Kelly herewith.

J.N.

July 18th, 1941.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

R 6797
7 JUL 1941

Enclosure

159

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY
June 13th 1941.

New Tokyo S.

My dear Phil,

You will have seen my telegrams reporting on my audience with the Pope. Although one approach him with indignation in one's soul and protests on one's lips, it is impossible not to be disarmed by his simplicity, humanity, friendliness and sincerity and by his devastating combination of saintliness and charm. One talks so easily to him, he listens so readily, responds so frankly and smiles so enchantingly and easily that one's carefully prepared attitude of dignified disapprobation just evaporates. He read my fairly strong Memorandum about the Vatican Radio and listened to my elaborations on its theme, and promised me an answer. This means that he took its criticism to heart and proposes to explain and defend himself.

He told me that he had received the Duke of Spoleto and Pavelic in their private capacities and; in the case of the former, before he had accepted the crown of

Croatia...

P.B.B. Nichols Esq., M.C.
Foreign Office.

Croatia. I then extracted from my pocket and handed to him a photograph from a Swiss paper of the Duke surrounded by the Vatican functionaries after the audience; in the title of the picture he is described as King of Croatia. I pointed out that, with the best will in the world on the part of the Vatican, it had not been possible to avoid political capital being made out of the audience. I asked him if Pavelic had come to confess, but he replied that he believed that Pavelic was a much maligned man and had really had nothing to do with the murder. I said I couldn't be as charitable as this.

He was most receptive to assurances of certainty of Allied victory and to factual demonstrations of the increasing moral and material assistance coming from the U.S. I think that this intense interest tells its own story. He again assured me of the interest with which he read every word of my news bulletins based on the B.B.C. and said they were his main source of information from non-Axis sources, although he added that Harold Tittmann now supplies him with the American Embassy's daily news bulletin. He asked me if I could not send my bulletin daily, but when I explained that, having no staff and having to do my own cyphering, I really couldn't manage it, he said that he had really only made the suggestion in order to show how interested he was. I now propose to send them three times instead of twice a week.

I...

I also send him the Berne Legation's bulletins as they reach me and mark for him the passages of particular interest. These too he told me he read with interest. I also send him other assorted informative matter: articles from the "Times", occasional official documents, etc.

He asked if I received other official information, so I told him about the weekly Interdepartmental telegrams. I occasionally pass on to the Cardinal some piece of news from these telegrams. Although I have entire faith that the information would not go beyond them, I don't think I can do more than this? But it is evident that both the Pope and the Cardinal are hungry for any Allied news they can get.

I was pleased with the Pope's Easter address and with what the Vatican Radio was doing up till then to refute Nazi propaganda, and I am very sorry that Nazi protests against both have been, at least temporarily effective. I am afraid that the Vatican is peculiarly susceptible to the war of nerves. Farinacci (Farinazi he should be called), back from the Front, is on the warpath again in the "Regime Fascista" and the Pope showed me one of his articles. I fear they attach altogether exaggerated importance to him here. Apart from Farinacci, Axis pressure seems to have been relaxed.

Yours ever;

D'Arcy

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. P 6797/30/57

P.N.

Draft

Mr. Osborne,
Vatican.

From Mr. Nichols.

Copy Mr. Kelly,
Berne.

Mr. Bentinck,
Communications
Dept.

18/7

To be sent July 21. IN.

X
Please send reference IN

200
1:2
182

OUT FILE

21 July 1941

My dear D'Arcy,

Many thanks for your letter of June 13th, in which you commented on your last audience with the Pope. He clearly is a man of great personal charm, but I must tell you quite frankly that the impression created in this country by his reception of Pavelitch has been deplorable. I should say that this action has done more to damage his reputation in this country than any other act since the war began, ~~though this might perhaps by some~~ be thought to be an over-statement. However sincere the explanations ~~which~~ are, they carry, I fear, no weight, and when His Holiness says that he believes that Pavelitch "was a much "maligned man and had really had nothing to do "with the murder", I can only say that we are shocked at simplicity carried to such a point in high places. As you know, the ~~Apostolic Delegate~~ Secretary of State spoke at the time to the Apostolic Delegate on the subject (see our telegram No. 69 (R5653)) and I myself spoke more recently to him, making it quite plain that we considered the whole episode as in his highest degree ~~most~~ unfortunate one. What is more, I believe in his heart of hearts Godfrey agrees.

2. Now to turn to particular points. We are most interested to hear of the Pope's interest in the news bulletins based on the B.B.C. with which you supply him, together with other

information...

information including the Berne Legation bulletins. As to the inter-departmental telegrams, we hope that you will pass on all you can to the Cardinal Secretary of State consistent with security. This means, of course, having regard to the prefixes. We have, I think, already instructed you, but I will repeat again, what the regulations are. The paragraphs marked "Secret" are for your own information only and for the information of the members of your staff if you had any. Paragraphs not marked "Secret" may be used in official circles, but may not, of course, be given to the press. It follows that you can pass on any paragraphs not marked "Secret" to the Cardinal Secretary of State and I hope you will do so. As His Holiness shows such interest, we intend to extend the range of the inter-departmental telegrams addressed to you to cover the more important developments and trends of events in the Far East, North and South America as well as Europe and the Near East and North Africa which you are already receiving.

3. As to information from Berne, we understand that the Legation there have arrangements in force for taking down the B.B.C. news and other wireless items from this country. They also receive guidance and other telegrams from the Ministry of Information. Instead of sending you their bulletins, which I presume they do by bag, how would it be if they were to send you

daily...

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Draft.

daily an en clair telegram which you could pass on and thus provide the Cardinal Secretary of State and Pope with up-to-date and true news? If you think there is anything in this suggestion, will you please communicate direct with Kelly, to whom I have sent a copy of this letter.]

4. One other point. You will remember that in a recent letter we suggested that if you wanted assistance we might be able to get you back Leigh-Smith. It occurs to us, however, that perhaps your main need is for a cypher officer. If so, we would be quite ready to try to send one to you, though cypher officers are in short supply; and of course it may be difficult to persuade the Italian authorities to let him through. But if on consideration you feel that a cypher officer is what you chiefly need, please send a telegram to that effect and we will see what can be done. Cypher officers are now described as temporary secretaries. and are authorised to help generally in non confidential papers &c.

cypher officers

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(R 6797/30/57). 21st July, 1941.

My dear D'Arcy,

Many thanks for your letter of 13th June, in which you commented on your last audience with the Pope. He clearly is a man of great personal charm, but I must tell you quite frankly that the impression created in this country by his reception of Pavelitch has been deplorable. I should say that this action has done more to damage his reputation in this country than any other act since the war began. However sincere the explanations are, they carry, I fear, no weight, and when His Holiness says that he believes that Pavelitch "was a much maligned man and had really had nothing to do with the murder", I can only say that we are shocked at simplicity carried to such a point in high places. As you know the Secretary of State spoke at the time to the Apostolic Delegate on the subject (see our telegram No.69) and I myself spoke more recently to him, making it quite plain that we considered the whole episode as, in the highest degree, unfortunate. What is more, I believe in his heart of hearts Godfrey agrees.

2. Now to turn to particular points. We are most interested to hear of the Pope's interest in the news bulletins based on the British Broadcasting Corporation with which you supply him, together with other information including the Berne Legation bulletins. As to the inter-departmental telegrams, we hope that you will pass on all you can to the Cardinal Secretary of State consistent with security. This means, of course, having regard to the prefixes. We have, I think, already instructed you, but I will repeat again, what the regulations are. The

paragraphs/

F.D.'A. G. Osborne, Esq., C.M.G.

paragraphs marked "Secret" are for your own information only and for the information of the members of your staff if you had any. Paragraphs not marked "Secret" may be used in official circles, but may not, of course, be given to the press. It follows that you can pass on any paragraphs not marked "Secret" to the Cardinal Secretary of State and I hope you will do so. As His Holiness shows such interest, we intend to extend the range of the inter-departmental telegrams addressed to you to cover the more important developments and trends of events in the Far East, North and South America as well as Europe and the Near East and North Africa which you are already receiving.

3. As to information from Berne, we understand that the Legation there have arrangements in force for taking down the British Broadcasting Corporation news and other wireless items from this country. They also receive guidance and other telegrams from the Ministry of Information. Instead of sending you their bulletins, which I presume they do by bag, how would it be if they were to send you daily an <u>en clair</u> telegram which you could pass on and thus provide the Cardinal Secretary of State and Pope with up-to-date and true News? If you think there is anything in this suggestion, will you please communicate direct with Kelly, to whom I have sent a copy of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this letter.

4. One other point. You will remember that in a recent letter we suggested that if you wanted assistance we might be able to get you back Leigh-Smith. It occurs to us, however, that perhaps your main need is for a cypher officer. If so, we would be quite ready to try to send one to you, though cypher officers are in short supply; and of course it may be difficult to persuade the Italian authorities to let him through. But if on consideration you feel that a cypher officer is what you chiefly need, please send

a/

a telegram to that effect and we will see what can be done. Cypher officers are now described as temporary secretaries and are authorised to help generally with confidential papers etc.

Yours ever

Sd. Philip Nichols.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No R 6797/30/57

P.N.

Draft.

Mr. Kelly,
Berne.

Passed to F

Letter to M'Osborne

168

OUT FILE

21 July 1941

My dear David,

I enclose ~~a copy of~~ an extract from a letter I have sent to D'Arcy Osborne, of which paragraph 3 concerns your Mission. I do not know whether there is anything in this idea or whether it would make too much work, but it is obviously of great importance to give the Vatican true and hot news, and this might be one way of doing it. You will see that I have asked D'Arcy to write to you direct on the point.

Yours ever
Sd. Philip Nichols.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

(R 6797/30/57). 21st July, 1941.

My dear David,

I enclose an extract from a letter I have sent to D'Arcy Osborne, of which paragraph 5 concerns your Mission. I do not know whether there is anything in this idea or whether it would make too much work, but it is obviously of great importance to give the Vatican true and hot news, and this might be one way of doing it. You will see that I have asked D'Arcy to write to you direct on the point.

Yours ever
Sd. Philip Nichols.

D.V. Kelly, Esq., C.M.G., M.C.

Berne.

47

R

1941

VATICAN

R 6819

7 JUL 1941

170

Registry Number } R 6819/30/57.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Kelly. (Berne).

No. 1485.

Dated 4th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 7th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Pope's address on the Feast of St. Peter.

Following from Mr. Osborne (Holy See) telegram No. 132 of 1st July.

Pope's address was pre-eminently a sermon suited to circumstances of time and capable of interpretation to suit all tastes. Given the day, blessing to Roman and Italian people was natural and devoid of political implication and was extended to the whole Church.

Text follows by bag.

Last Paper.

R 6797

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

WRCK 8/7

Mr Rapsleall.

AWR.

26/7

(Action completed.)

9C 9/7

(Index.)

BC/Ind

Next Paper.

R6887.

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

R

171

R 6819
7 JUL 1941

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

From SWITZERLAND.

[Cypher]

From BERNE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 1485.
4th July, 1941.

D. 6.30 p.m. 4th July, 1941.
R. 12.15 a.m. 5th July, 1941.

****

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 132 of July 1st.

Pope's address on the Feast of St. Peter was pre-eminently a sermon suited to circumstances of the time and capable of interpretation to suit all tastes. Given the day, blessing to Roman and Italian people was natural and devoid of political implication, and it was in any case extended to the whole church.

Text follows by bag.

JUL
F.O. REGISTRY

48

R

1941

VATICAN

172

R 6887

9 JUL 1941

Registry Number } R 6887/30/57.

FROM Polish Foreign Minister.(conversation).

No.

Dated 8th July,1941.

Received in Registry } 9th July,1941.

R: Vatican.

Public opinion in Italy and the Vatican on the Russo-German War.

During the course of a conversation on 8th July, the Polish Foreign Minister told Mr. Eden that he had just received a telegram from his Minister at the Vatican which he thought might be of interest.The Minister reported that Italian public opinion was in a state of consternation as a result of the German-Russian War,which was regarded in Italy as a grave misfortune.TheGermans and Fascists were trying to explain that Germany would quickly win a smashing victory over Russia,thus reducing her to the situation of Marshal Pétain.In the Vatican it was hoped that this was would in any event mean the end of Stalin.

Last Paper.

R 6819

References.

(*Print.*)

KCJ Italy 8 July Secr: 1

(*How disposed of.*)

Off) Sir C. Dormer no: 24.

8th July

(*Minutes.*)

Despatch to Sir C. Dormer. The King Cabinet Dominions.

(See within).

W.R.C.Knight 9/7.

Cabinet Off. Sec. 17/1

JN 10/7.

(Action completed.)

8 Jul 41

(Index.)

EH 30/7

Next Paper.

R 6914/42.

173

Southern .....Division

Lady July 8/1

A copy has been sent to The King.

Despatch Branch.

16/7/41

Circulated to the Cabinet by direction of
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

ITALY. July 8, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL. ARCHIVES SECTION 1.

[R 6887/30/57] Copy No. 8

Mr. Eden to Sir C. Dormer.

(No. 24.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 8, 1941.

DURING the course of a conversation this afternoon the Polish Foreign Minister told me that he had just received a telegram from his Minister at the Vatican which he thought might be of interest. The Minister reported that Italian public opinion was in a state of consternation as a result of the German-Russian war, which was regarded in Italy as a grave misfortune. The Germans and the Fascist party were trying to explain that Germany would quickly win a smashing victory over Russia. In this way Russia would be reduced to the situation of Marshal Pétain. Italian public opinion, however, remained sceptical.

2. In the Vatican it was hoped that the war between Germany and Russia would, in any event, mean the end of Stalin. It was also thought that the fact that Stalin had always accepted Hitler's conditions hitherto had been interpreted by Hitler as a sign of Soviet weakness, and that this had encouraged him to attack Russia.

I am, &c.
ANTHONY EDEN.

175

Registry
No: R6887/30/37

A.E.

Draft.

Sir C. Dormer.

No. 24

KCD.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

R 6887
9 JUL 1941

July 8th, 1941.

Sir,

During the course of a conversation this afternoon the Polish Foreign Minister told me that he had just received a telegram from his Minister at the Vatican which he thought might be of interest. The Minister reported that Italian public opinion was in a state of consternation as a result of the German-Russian war, which was regarded in Italy as a grave misfortune. The Germans and the Fascist Party were trying to explain that Germany would quickly win a smashing victory over Russia. In this way Russia would be reduced to the situation of Marshal Pétain. Italian public opinion, however, remained sceptical.

2. In the Vatican it was hoped that the war between Germany and Russia would in any event mean the end of Stalin. It was also thought that the fact that Stalin had always accepted Hitler's conditions hitherto had been interpreted by Hitler as a sign of Soviet weakness and that this had encouraged him to attack Russia.

R. July 8

9 JUL 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

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R

1941

VATICAN

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R 6942

11 JUL 1941

Registry Number R 6942/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 47 (35/27/41)

Dated 16th June, 1941.

Received in Registry 11th July, 1941.

R:Vatican.

Alleges stories of statements on the war made by the Pope.

Refers to Holy See telegram No.120 of 27th June (R 6537/30/57). Reports that the "Osservatore Romano" of 9th June contained a further article on the lines of that quoted in Holy See telegram No.24 of 20th February (R 1398/30/57) that is to say, it repudiated false interpretations of Papal or Vatican policy disseminated by the press or the radio, urging that the truth be sought not from notoriously unreliable sources but in the Pope's own words. Gives the gist of this article.

Last Paper.

R 6887

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

R 1398. 20th

Central Dept, copy of ref: attached

WICK 12/7.

Central Dept. 15/7

Mr. Randall.

15/7

(Action completed.) D.C 19/7

(Index.) 22/7

Next Paper.

R 7092.

20817 F.O.P.

1347

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY.
June 16th 1941.

No. 47.
(35/27/41)

R 6942
11 JUL 1941

Sir,

Berne 1404 / R6537/30/57

With reference to my telegram No. 120 of to-day's date, I have the honour to report that the "Osservatore Romano" of June 9th contained a further article on the lines of that quoted in my telegram No. 24 of February 17th; R1398/30/57 that is to say, it repudiated false interpretations of Papal or Vatican policy disseminated by the press or the wireless and urged that the truth be sought, not from notoriously unreliable sources, but in the Pope's own words. It must be admitted that there is some justification for these complaints. I learn that the article was inspired, if not actually composed, by the Secretariat of State.

2. It begins by stating that every now and then one comes to realise with what frequency, amidst all the difficulties and differences of the present hour, false news or inferences in regard to supposed activities of the Holy See are disseminated by press and radio. There follows, firstly, a dissertation on those who, in ignorance of the mission of the Church and the activities of its Head, claim to interpret both to public opinon, and, secondly, a tribute to the all-embracing activity of the Pope, and his endeavours, by his own words, to comfort, sustain and guide the peoples of all nations.

3. The writer goes on to give instances of misrepresentation, and states that the Pope may, for instance, express his opinion of the personal qualities of a statesman who has visited him. In such case some paper will at once interpret this

act...

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

act of courtesy towards the visitor as a proof that the Holy See approves the policy of the statesman in question. Another time it may be a radio station which will exert itself to prove to its listeners the alleged preference of the Holy See for one or other of the parties engaged in conflict and will descend so low as to collect irreverent jokes which had never been uttered, at least by the persons to whom they are attributed, thereby eloquently demonstrating how slight foundation there is for any thesis, for the support of which, with the best will in the world, no less frivolous arguments can be found. (I do not know what this refers to). Or suppose that there are sudden and far-reaching political and territorial changes in the Balkans. These offer occasion to the press - and to agencies from which perhaps better judgment might have been expected - to affirm that the Holy See is actively working for the purpose of establishing new diplomatic representations. If the Holy Father, in deference to a desire formally expressed to him, receives in audience Catholic personalities, it will be affirmed, and repeated with every assurance, that such audiences have political significance and intention. On another occasion, without the slightest justification, there will actually be invented secret meetings and political gatherings in the Vatican which, in fact, exist solely in some all too lively imagination.

4. We may suppose, the article continues, that these and other such reports would not be collected and disseminated if, instead of having recourse to sources which are notoriously unreliable, interested and partial, greater attention were paid to words which the Holy Father with commendable awareness and frequency, addresses to all men of goodwill, conscious as he is that the disorderly succession of events, and the disorientation of the spirit which derives from them, must render ever more difficult the task of conforming to the rules laid down by ordinary prudence and the restraint of that passion which is

ever...

ever ready to stifle the cry of truth.

5. Defining once more the true and one and only attitude of the Holy See at this moment, full of happenings so momentous to the human family, the Pope, in his moving message to the whole world last Easter; declared "These are not offensive and bloody weapons, but arms of the spirit, arms of Our mind and heart. Nothing can impede or restrain Us from using them to secure and safeguard just rights, true human brotherhood and genuine peace, wherever the sacred duty of Our Office prompts Us and compassion for the multitude rekindles Our love. Nothing can restrain Us from repeatedly recalling to the observance of the precept of love those who are children of the Church of Christ." It is therefore only to be hoped in the interests of truth and justice, the article concludes, that, when the Holy See and the development of its activities, which have become particularly delicate in present circumstances, are discussed, those words of the Pope should not be lost sight of.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient; humble Servant,

D. Q. Dowse.

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R

1941

VATICAN

180

R 7092

18 JUL 1941

Registry Number R 7092/30/57.

FROM Apostolic Delegate, Conversation.

No.

Dated 3rd July, 1941.

Received in Registry 18th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Catholic opinion on the Russo-German War.

Records conversation between Archbishop Godfrey and Mr. Nichols, in which the latter referred to the German attack on Russia and said that in his opinion Catholics in Great Britain were much exercised in their minds on this subject. They could not forget that Stalin in the past had planned the destruction of the Catholic Church and no doubt was still planning to destroy it. He hoped therefore, that there could be no question of an alliance The Archbishop was reminded of the terms of both the Prime Minister's broadcast of 22nd June and the Secretary of State's speech on 24th. He said he had already drawn the attention of the Vatican to these speeches. It was pointed out to the Archbishop that we had only one object which was made clear by the Prime Minister's words, namely the destruction of Hitler and the Nazi system.

Last Paper.

R 6942

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

See minutes — (*Minutes.*)

ARCK 19/7.

(Action completed.) DC 24/7

(Index.) 86 25/7

Next Paper.

R 7179

20817 F.O.P.

E&U 181

R 7092
JUL 19

At the end of a conversation I had with him this afternoon the Apostolic Delegate referred to the German attack on Russia and told me that in his opinion Catholics in this country were much exercised in their minds on this subject. They could not forget that Stalin in the past had planned the destruction of the Catholic Church and no doubt was still planning to destroy it. He hoped, therefore, that there could be no question of an alliance.

I reminded the Archbishop of the terms of both the Prime Minister's broadcast on June 22nd and the Secretary of State's speech on the 24th. He said he had already drawn the attention of the Vatican to these speeches but in order, he added, to show how strong were the feelings of Catholics in this country, he recounted that he listened to the Prime Minister's broadcast with six other prelates recently at Birmingham and at the end of the broadcast there was complete silence. His colleagues were apparently all disappointed that the Prime Minister had not gone further than he had in the condemnation of Bolshevism.

I said I was sorry to hear this since we had only one object, which was made perfectly plain by the Prime Minister's words, namely the destruction of Hitler and the Nazi system. The Archbishop admitted that this was the first and most important object but he seemed nevertheless a little uneasy, and I rather gather that he will take an early opportunity, if he can, of mentioning the subject to the Secretary of State.

July 3rd, 1941.

Northern Department.

Central Department.

Mr. Randall.

AWSR. 8/VII

These seven prelates must be very hard to please

I hope are not typical
of the English Roman
Catholic community. At
any rate I can congratulate
ourselves that Cardinal
Hinsley is not so exacting
a Roman as were
most of his colleagues
Bishops there seem of
Birmingham.

The Apostolic Delegate
might be shown our letter
& Berne & told how
it has been repeated by
the chief Catholic countries.
This might help to reassure
him.

Yours
D'Arcy

Jan 18th
to call early
next week.
IN
5/7.

I asked the Apostolic Delegate to call to-day and gave him our telegram to Mr. Osborne No. 89 to read, informing him that copies had been sent to our Missions in all the chief Catholic countries. The Archbishop said he found himself in agreement with all that this telegram said and that he himself had written in not dissimilar strain to Cardinal Maglione, in the course of which he had quoted from the Prime Minister's broadcast and the Secretary of State's speeches on the 24th June and at Leeds on July 5th. He hoped that this communication of his might be useful in supporting the memorandum which I told him Mr. Osborne was handing to the Cardinal Secretary of State for the information of the Pope, based on our telegram No. 89.

Archbishop Godfrey was, however, perturbed by the account given on the B.B.C. last night at 9 p.m. of the reception accorded to the Soviet Military Mission on arrival in London. It appears that a graphic description was given, including an account of a number of girls waving welcome and clenching their hands in the Soviet salute. He said this would make the worst possible impression on Catholics in this country, and that we should do well to avoid broadcasts of this character in future. He felt strongly on this point, not only as a Catholic but also as an Englishman. As I had no details of the broadcast I did not discuss this matter in detail with the Archbishop, but contented myself with informing him that he might rest assured that the danger to public opinion which he apprehended as a result of close association with Russia was, I felt sure, well in the forefront of the minds of responsible Ministers and authorities in this country.

From what he said Archbishop Godfrey intends, I think, to apply for an interview with the Secretary of State, in the course of which he will raise (a) the dangers of close association with Russia and (b) the humanitarian activities of the Vatican. It will be remembered that on (b) he left a memorandum with Sir A. Cadogan recently.

WO Prisoners of War Department, to see.
14/7 Franks Dept.

CPRS 15/7.

J. Nicoll

July 9th, 1941.

O.G. Sargent July 9

I thought the broadcast should have gone further to comrade galleacher AC. July 10. 1941.

AEB 10/7 AE July 10

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1941

R

VATICAN

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R 7179

22 JUL 1941

Registry Number R 7179/30/57.

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 49 (8/24/41).

Dated 1st July, 1941.

Received in Registry 22nd July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Pope's address on the Feast of St. Peter.

Refers to Holy See telegram No. 132 of 1st July (R 6819/30/57).

Transmits a copy of the official English text of the Pope's broadcast on the Feast of St. Peter, Sunday, 29th June.

Last Paper.

R 7092

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

WRCK 24/7.

Mr. Rapidale.

AmbR

21/7

(Action completed.)

DC 26/7

(Index.)

8R 13/8

Next Paper.

R 7194

185

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

No. 49

(8/24/41)

July 1st 1941.

R 7179
22 JUL 1941

R 6819/30/57

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 132 of today, I have the honour to transmit copy of the official English text of the Pope's broadcast on the Feast of St. Peter, Sunday, June 29th.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

Message Broadcast on the feast of SS. Peter and Paul.

Some considerations on Divine Providence in human events.

My dear children of the whole Catholic Church, your thoughts, on this feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, turn with affection to Rome, in terms of the triumphal hymn: "O happy Rome! who in thy martyr princes' blood - A two-fold stream, art washed and doubly sanctified". But the happiness of Rome, which is a happiness of blood and faith, is your happiness too; for the faith of Rome, sealed here with the blood of the Princes of the Apostles on the right and on the left bank of the Tiber, is the faith that was preached to you; it is the faith that will be preached to the whole world. You are exultant at the thought of greeting Rome because you feel within you the thrill of the all-embracing Romanism of your faith.

Ninteen centuries ago the Rome of the Caesars was baptised in the blood of the first Vicar of Christ and of the Apostle of the Gentiles and was named the Rome of Christ: it was to be an enduring token of the indefectible Supremacy of the Church's sacred authority, a token of the infallible teaching of her faith; and in that blood were written the first pages of a grand new story of the sacred battles and victories of Rome.

Have you ever asked yourselves what must have been the thoughts, the fears of the little handful of Christians, scattered over the great pagan city when, having given hasty burial to the bodies of the two great martyrs, the one at the foot of the Vatican hill, and the other on the road to Ostia, they gathered, for the most part in the tenements of slaves or poor trades=

men,but some few in their wealthy homes,and felt the sense of loneliness, almost of orphans,at the disappearance of the two supreme Apostles?It was the fiercest moment in the tempest that,shortly before,the cruelty of Nero had let loose upon the infant Church;before their eyes still rose the horrible vision of human torches glowing by night in the gardens of Caesar, of the quivering torn bodies in the arenas and in the streets.It seemed then that implacable cruelty had triumphed,striking at and overturning the two pillars whose presence alone had sustained the faith and the courage of the little Christian group.In that sunset of blood,how their hearts must have felt the distress of sorrow, as they found themselves now without the comfort and the company of those two strong spokesmen, abandoned to the brutality of a Nero, and the dreadful power of Roman Imperial greatness.

But,against the steel and physical force of the tyrant and of his ser= vants, they had received the spirit of force and of love, stronger than torments or death,and We seem to see the aged Linus at that reunion which followed,in the midst of the desolate community,Linus,who was the first to be called to take the place of the departed Peter,to take into his hands that trembled with emotion the letter already sent by the Apostle to the faithful of Asia Minor,and read over slowly the words of blessing,of trust, of comfort: "Blessed be the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who according to His great mercy hath regenerated us unto a lively hope,by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.....Wherein you shall greatly rejoice,if now you must be for a little time made sorrowful in divers temptations.... Be

you humbled therefore under the mighty hand of God...Casting all your care upon Him,for He hath care of you... The God of all grace,Who hath called us unto His eternal glory in Christ Jesus,after you have suffered a little, will Himself perfect you,and confirm you,and establish you" (I Peter 1,3,6; 5,6,10).

We,too,beloved children,who by an inscrutable design of God, have received in succession to Peter, to Linus and to a hundred other saintly Pontiffs the mission to comfort and confirm our brethren in Jesus Christ (cfr.Luke 22,32), We, like you,feel Our heart grow faint at the thought of the tempest of evil, of suffering and anguish that now rages over the world.There are not lacking,it is true, in the darkness of the storm,comforting sights which dilate Our hearts with great and holy expectations: courage in defence of the fundamentals of Christian civilisation and confident hope in their triumph; intrepid patriotism;heroic acts of virtue; chosen souls ready for every sacrifice; wholehearted self-surrender; widespread reawakening of faith and of piety.But,on the other hand: sin and evil penetrating the lives of individuals, the sacred shrine of family, the social organism; and being now no longer merely tolerated through weakness or impotence,but excused,exalted,entering as master into the most diverse phases of human life; decadence of the spirit of justice and charity; peoples overthrown or fallen into an abyss of disasters;human bodies torn by bombs or by machine-gun fire;wounded and sick who fill hospitals,and come out often with ther health ruined,their

limbs mutilated,invalids for the rest of their lives; prisoners far from those dear to them and often without news of them;individuals and families deported,transported,separated,torn from their homes,wandering in misery, without support, without means of earning their daily bread;evils,all of them,which affect not only the fighters but weigh on the whole population; old men,women,children, the most innocent, the most peace-loving, those bereft of all defence; blockades and counter-blockades which aggravate almost everywhere the difficulty of getting supplies of foodstuffs,so that already here and there famine in all its horror makes its presence felt; added to this,the indescribable sufferings, pain, and persecution which so many of our dear sons and daughters - priests,religious,layfolk - in some places endure for the name of Christ, because of their religion,of their fidelity to the Church,because of their sacred ministry, pains and bitterness which anxiety for those that suffer does not permit Us to reveal in all their sad and moving details.

Before such an accumulation of evils,of obstacles to virtue,of disas= ters, of trials of every kind, it seems that man's mind and judgment go astray and become confused, and perhaps in the heart of more than one of you has arisen the terrible suggestion of doubt, which perchance [redacted], at the death of the two Apostles,was a disturbing temptation for some of the less staunch Christians: How can God permit all this? How can an Omnipotent God, infinitely wise, and infinitely good, possibly allow so many evils which He might so easily prevent.And there rise to the lips the words of Peter,still imperfect when the passion was

foretold: "Lord, be it far from thee" (Matt.16,22).No,my God - they think - neither Your wisdom nor Your goodness nor Your honour itself can allow that evil and violence dominate to such an extent over the world, deride You,and triumph by Your silence.Whereis Your power and providence? Must we, then, doubt either Your divine government or Your love for us?

"Thou savourest not the things that are of God but the things that are of men" (Matt.16,23)said Christ to Peter,just as He had made the Prophet Isaias say to the people of Juda: "My thoughts are not your thoughts; nor your ways my ways" (Is. 55,8).

All men are as children before God,all,even the most profound thinkers and the most experienced leaders of peoples,They judge events with the fore shortened vision of time which passes and flies past irreparably; God on the otherhand, sees events from on high, from the unmoved centre of Eternity. They have before their eyes the limited view of a few years;God has before Him the all-embracing panorama of the ages.They think of human events in relation to their proximate causes and immediate effects; God sees them in their remote causes and judges them in their remote effects. They stop to single out this or that particular responsible hand;God sees a whole hidden complicated convergence of responsibilities, because His exalted Providence does not exclude the free choice of evil and good in human selections.They would have immediate justice,and are scandalized at the ephemeral power of the enemies of God,the sufferings and humiliations of the innocent, permitted by God;but our Heavenly Father, Who in the light of His eternity embraces,penetrates and dominates the vi=

cissitudes of time, as much as the serene peace of the endless ages, God, Who is Blessed Trinity, full of compassion for the weaknesses,ignorance, impatience of men,but Who loves men too much for their faults to turn Him from the ways of His wisdom and love, continues and will continue to make His sun to rise upon the good and bad, and to rain upon the just and the unjust (Matt. 5,45),to guide their childlike steps with firmness and kind= ness,if only they will let themselves be led by Him,and have trust in the power and the wisdom of His love for them.

What does it mean to trust in God?

Trust in God means the abandonment of oneself with all the force of the will sustained by grace and love, in spite of all the doubts suggested by appearances to the contrary,to the wisdom,the infinite love of God. It means believing that nothing in this world escapes His Providence,whether in the universal or in the particular order;that nothing, great or small happens which is not foreseen, wished or permitted, directed always by Providence to its exalted ends,which in this world are always inspired by love for men. It means believing that God can permit at times here below, for some time,the predominance of atheism and of impiety,the lamentable obscuring of a sense of justice,the violation of law,the tormenting of innocent,peaceful,undefended,helpless men. It means believing that God at times thus lets trials befall individuals and peoples, trials of which the malice of men is the instrument in a design of justice, directed the punishment of sin,towards towards/purifying persons and peoples through the expiations of this present life,and bringing them back by this way to Himself;but it means believing,

at the same time,that this justice always remains,here below,the justice of a Father,inspired and dominated by love. However cruel may seem the hand of the Divine Surgeon,when He cuts with the lancet into the live flesh, it is always an active love that guides and drives it in,and only the good of men and peoples makes Him interfere to cause such sorrow.It means be= lieving,finally,that the fierce intensity of the trial like the triumph of evil,will endure even here below only for a fixed time and no longer; the hour of holy rejoicing,the hour of the new canticle of liberation,the that the hour of God will come,the hour of mercy,/ hour of exultation and of joy (Ps. 95), the hour in which, after having let the hurricane loose for a moment on humanity,the all-powerful hand of the Heavenly Father, with an imperceptible motion will detain it and disperse it, and by ways little known to the mind or to the hopes justice of men,/calm andpeace will be restored to the nations.

We know well that the most serious difficulty,for those who have not a correct sense of the divine,comes from seeing so many innocent victims involved in suffering by the same tempest which overwhelms sinners. Men never remain lindifferent when the hurricane which tears up the great trees also cuts down the lowly little flowers,which opened at their feet only to lavish the grace of their beauty and fragrance on the air around them.And yet these flowers and these perfumes are the work of God and of His wonder= ful designing! If He has allowed any of these flowers to be swept away in the storm,can He not,do you think, have assigned a goal,unseen by the human eye, for the sacrifice of that most unoffending creature in the general arrangement of the law by which He prevails over andgoverns nature?

How much more then will His onnipotence and love direct the lot of pure and innocent human beings to good!

Through the languishing of faith in men's hearts, through the pleasure-seeking that moulds and captivates their lives, men are driven to judge as evil, and as unmixed evil, all the physical mishaps of this earth. They have forgotten that suffering stands at the threshold of life as the way that leads to the smiles of the cradle; they have forgotten that it is more often than not the shadow of the Cross of Calvary thrown on the path of the Resurrection; they have forgotten that the Cross is frequently a gift of God, a gift which is needed in order to offer to the divine justice our share of expiation; they have forgotten that the only real evil is the sin that offends God; they have forgotten what the Apostle says: "The sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come, that shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8,18), that we ought to look on Jesus, the author and finisher of faith, who having joy set before him, endured the cross (Hebrews 12,2).

To Christ crucified on Golgotha, the virtue and wisdom which draws the whole world to itself, they turned their gaze amidst the immense tribula=tions bound up with the spread of the Gospel, those two Princes of the Apostles who in life were nailed to the cross with Christ, and died, Peter crucified, Paul bending his neck to the headsman's sword, as leaders, teachers and witnesses to the fact that in the Cross is comfort and salva=tion, and that there is no living in the love of Christ without suffering.

1944

To that Cross which illumines the way, the truth and the life, the Roman protomartyrs and the first Christians looked in the hour of suffering and persecution. Do you too, dear children, look upon your sufferings thus; and you will find the strenghth not merely to accept them with resignation, but to love them, to glory in them, as the Apostles and saints, our fathers and elder brothers, who were formed of the same flesh as you and had the same power of suffering, loved them and gloried in them. Look on your sufferings and difficulties in the light of the sufferings of the Crucified, in the light of the sufferings of the Blessed Virgin, the most innocent of crea= tures and the most intimate sharer in the Passion of Our Lord, and you will be able to understand that to be like the exemplar, the Son of God, King of sufferings, is the noblest and safest way to heaven and victory. Do not look merely at the thorns which afflict you and cause you pain, but think also of the merit which sprouts from your sufferings like the rose of a heavenly garland; and you will find then, with the grace of God, the courage and strength of that Christian heroism which is at once sacrifice and vic= tory, and peace surpassing all sense; heroism which your faith has the right to exact from you.

"And in fine" (to repeat ~~with~~ in the words of Saint Peter) "be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, being lovers of the brotherhood, merciful, modest, humble: not rendering evil for evil, nor railing for rail= ing, but contrariwise, blessin g....that in all things God may be honoured through Jesus Christ: to whom is glory and empire for ever and ever" (I Peter 3,8-8; 4,11).

But, if the sublime heights of Christianity cause our thoughts to be thus exalted, We feel, too, in the depth of Our heart how the desire of all Our children coincides with Ours, asking God that in so grave an hour in history, the virtue of all be equal to their faith.

Our thoughts go especially to thee, O Rome, Our native city in a double sense, the object of eternal counsel, accustomed to bear with such noble sense of duty the greater burdens in the life of the Church. To thee before all goes Our blessing, for We know that thou wilt not, in this hour, in thy serene strength and exercise of good, deny that faith which has made thee mistress of the world and majestic to the nations where Christian culture obtains.

Together with thee we bless the whole Italian people, which in the prive= lege of possessing the centre of unity of the Church, presents the manifest signs of a God-given mission, and which in the monuments of its chequered but glorious story throughout the centuries shows forth unbroken its Catholic traditions.

To the whole world, finally, wherever We have children, all equally dear to Us, We extend Our blessing, while Our heart trembles within / Us as We think of those people who suffer more from the present disastrous calamities, which have already filled the earth with such conflicts and such mourning. Nor would We exclude from Our prayer and good wishes those who as yet are far from the bosom of the Church, that they may feel her insistent, maternal invitation to return and that they too may seek in her salvation and peace.

In this way We present all to Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of all. And in His name, with the authority of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, whose martyrdom and triumph we celebrate, We impart to all, from the depths of Our heart, the Apostolic Benediction.

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R

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VATICAN

R 7194

22 JUL 1941

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Registry Number R 7194/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 1622

Dated 21st July, 1941.

Received in Registry 22nd July, 1941.

R : Vatican

Request for copies of texts of speeches by Prime Minister or Mr. Eden for His Majesty's Minister to the Holy See.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 150 of 16th July.

Asks whether he could be supplied by bag as early as possible with three copies of the texts of any important speeches by the Prime Minister or by Mr. Eden. Extracts from "The Times" would do.

Last Paper.

R 7179

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

W. R. C. Knight

22/7.

Library for obs.

Two recent speeches which Mr Osborne sh? certainly have are those by the P.M. on June 22 & the S. of S. on June 24.

We must remember to send him copies of any important speeches as they appear. The extra copies are no doubt for the Cardinal S. of S. & the Pope.

P.B.

22/7

The easiest way to comply with this request would be for the Press Cutting Section to send "The Times" reports of all such speeches to Mr. Osborne via Dataplish Branch. Mr. Osborne does not say whether he requires speeches already made or those made in future

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 24/7 DC 31/-	Dos P.M.G.

Next Paper.

R 7229

x | future, but perhaps we might include all remis the German attack on the Soviet Union. If this is agreed, the necessary instructions will be given to the Press Cutting Section.

23/7

S.G.

23. VII. 41.

x I am sure this would be the most helpful thing to do. Will Library kindly arrange?

Library necessary instructions issued. 23/7

PD 23/7

I have confirmed from Mr Grey that the P.M.'s and S/S' important speeches, delivered yesterday, are being sent to Mr Osborne as above.

WRCK 30/7

198
END

R

R 7194

22 JUL 41

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

[Code] R.

From BERNE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 1622.
21st July, 1941.

D. 4.10 p.m. 21st July, 1941.
R. 8.25 p.m. 21st July, 1941.

****

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 150 16th July.
Could I be supplied by bag as early as possible with three copies of the texts of any important speeches by the Prime Minister or yourself. Extracts from "The Times" would do.

22 JUL 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

F.O.
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VATICAN

R 7229

24 JUL 1941

2

Registry Number } R 7229/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See
No48 (8/23/41)

Dated 28th June, 1941

Received in Registry } 24th July, 1941

R: Vatican

Pope's broadcast message to the United States on the closing of the 9th National Eucharistic Congress of the United States.

Transmits copy of a report published in the "osservatore Romano" of 28th June giving the text of a message in English broadcast by the Pope to the United States of America on the occasion of the closing of the 9th National Eucharistic Congress of the United States. The underlying lesson of the message is, perhaps, the unity of humanity, transcending race and history. Quotes a passage of particular interest regarding the persecution of the Church.

Last Paper.

R 7194

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

The passage quoted in para. 2 undoubtedly refers to Germany and German-occupied countries, particularly Poland.

Amb. R. 28/7. W.L.C.K. 25/7.

Mr Randall.

Central Depts.

Sh. 31/7

(Action completed.)

DE 1/8

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 7326.

30175

20817 F.O.P.

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY,
June 28th 1941.

No. 48
(8/23/41)

R 7229
24 JUL 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the "Osservatore Romano" of to-day's date published the text of a Message in English broadcast yesterday by the Pope to the United States on the occasion of the closing of the 9th National Eucharistic Congress of the United States.

2. The underlying lesson of the Message is, perhaps, the unity of humanity, transcending race and history. The following passage regarding the persecution of the Church is worth quoting:-

" ; ; .the Church, as it has always suffered persecution, so it is today being persecuted - persecuted in some of its members so artfully, that it is difficult to measure how far-reaching the effect may be. And bitter tragedy of it all - loyal Catholic fathers and mothers, with sorrow gnawing at their hearts, must contemplate the danger, which every day looms more threatening, that their children and their children's children may be deprived of that precious heritage of faith, which they had hoped to safeguard for them.

In Our discourse of last Easter, as you will remember, Our paternal heart had a special word of comfort and encouragement for those whose fidelity to Christ is forcing them to walk the sorrowful Way of the Cross."

On behalf of these sufferers the Pope appealed to his listeners for sympathy and prayer.

3...

The Right Honourable,
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

3. I enclose a copy of the Message.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient; humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

"Osservatore Romano"
June 28th 1941

Venerable Brothers and dearly beloved children, as We send Our voice across the great expanse of sea and land to join in your prayer of adoration and thanksgiving, Our soul is stirred by the memory of those inspired words of the New Testament prophet: « Great and wonderful are Thy works, O Lord God Almighty;... Who shall not fear Thee and magnify Thy name? » (Apoc. *15, 3*). *Wonderful indeed is this universe come from the omnipotent love of the Creator; wonderful are its elements, which allow God's human creatures to mingle their voices in glorifying Him, despite the apparent barrier of time and space.*

Yet more wonderful far is that precious token of Christ's supreme love for man, which has been the centre of your devotion and your study during these last few unforgettable days. Wishing to become a brother to us, the eternal Son of God took unto Himself human flesh and blood; that same flesh and blood He leaves for us, to be the food of our souls, so that we may become His brothers, and if brothers, co-heirs of God through Him (*cfr.* S. Joannis Chrysost. in Joannem *hom. 46 n. 3* - Migne P G *t. 59 col. 261*).

You have come, Venerable Brothers and dear children, from North and South, from East and West of the vast United States, from Canada, from Mexico and from the islands of the Caribbean. Our beloved Son, the Cardinal Archbishop of Philadelphia, has presided over your gatherings in Our name, and as Our Legate has brought Us, as it were, visibly present among you. You have knelt in fervent prayer before the tabernacle of your hidden God; you have raised your eyes and bowed your heads in adoration before the Sacred Host exposed in the priceless monstrance. But you know that the bread and wine of our sacrifice of the New Law have not been transubstantiated into the Body and Blood of Christ to find their resting place in tabernacle or lunette. No host is ever consecrated but that it should find at last its way into the breast of man. And so during these days, as Our thoughts took frequent flight to your twin cities on the upper reaches of Père Marquette's Father of Streams, — where We had once the pleasure of visiting Our Venerable Brother, your devoted Archbishop — We seemed to see in vision thousands, yes tens of thousands of Our dear children reverently, fervently receiving from the consecrated hands of God's priests the Body and Blood of their Lord and Master, their God and Redeemer. The nations of the world are there; no people of Europe but has the children of its own blood there among you; Asia, Africa, Australia are there; and We see Our dear negro children and Our dear Indians, - all partaking of the one Victim of Golgotha, all entering into union with the God-head through Christ Jesus, Who then abides in them through His Holy Spirit.

O sacrament of tender love! O sign of unity! O bond of charity!, exclaimed St. Augustine (In Joannis Evang. *tr. 26 c. 6 n. 13*). *And the zealous Apostle of the Gentiles, whose honored name your city has borne for just one hundred years, has taught us the divinely inspired truth in these words: « For we, though we be many, are one bread, one body, all that partake of one bread »* (1 Cor. *10, 17*). *« For what is the bread? », asks St. John Chrysostom. « The Body of Christ. And what do they become who partake of it? The Body of Christ; not many bodies, but one body... There is not one body for thee, and another for thy neighbor to be nourished by, but the very same for all. »* (In Epist. 1 ad Cor. *hom. 24 n. 2* - Migne P G *t. 61 col. 200*).

Yes, the sacrament of our altars is a source of union which transcends all the accidents of history, all the diversifying traits and peculiarities, which have divided our scattered human family into different groups. It reconsecrates, it elevates, it sanctifies that union which our common nature and our universally shared destiny proclaim. It purifies that love which every human heart should cherish for all his fellow-men - that love which quickens our zeal to come to the defence of the spiritual and moral rights of our fellow-men - it deepens that love and steadies it, so that no withering blast may make it droop and die. « By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another » (Joann. *13, 35*), *And if through Holy Communion we become one with Christ, how can we fail to love all men, for whose love Christ died on a cross?*

It is St. Augustine who has expressed this sublime and awesome truth so tersely, when writing of the Blessed Sacrament. « If you have received worthily, you are what you have received » (Serm. *227* - Migne P L, *t. 38 col. 1099*). *St. Thomas, following him, tells us that we are transformed into Christ* (Exposit. in Epist. 1 ad Cor. *cap. X lect. IV*). *And, Venerable Brothers and dearly belo-*

ved children, it is a Victim we have received; it is into a Victim we are changed. Well may you ask, what elements of victimhood are to be found in your lives. And it was eminently fitting that you should have proposed as the subject to be discussed in the Youth Section of your Congress: «Christ's sacrifice and the importance of personal sacrifice». Sacrifice, especially self-sacrifice is an essential element in the life of a victim. Early explorers record in their relations their utter amazement at the mighty current that sweeps down your Mississippi River. There is a stronger current of black paganism sweeping over peoples today, carrying along in its onward rush newspapers, magazines, moving pictures, breaking down the barriers of self-respect and decency, undermining the foundations of Christian culture and education. Only a young man and woman of self-sacrifice - We were almost going to add, heroic self-sacrifice - will escape the flood.

You live in a country, where a tradition of human freedoms allows you to practice your faith without let or hindrance. Your chief enemy is within you - that naturale drag of our fallen humanity to self-seeking and sin. Self-sacrifice must combat him. Your parishes multiply, your schools and colleges and universities are thronged, your Youth Associations flourish, your Organizations of Social and Civic Service are reinforcing those bulwarks of morality and religion, without which no nation can aspire to prosperity and peace.

But you must not forget that you belong to a Church, whose founder and head was scourged, mocked, and crucified (Matth. 20, 19); *and that His Body, which is the Church, as it has always suffered persecution, so it is today being persecuted - persecuted in some of its members so artfully, that it is difficult to measure how far-reaching the effect may be. And - bitter tragedy of it all - loyal Catholic fathers and mothers, with sorrow gnawing at their hearts, must contemplate the danger, which every day looms more threatening, that their children and their children's children may be deprived of that precious heritage of faith, which they had hoped to safeguard for them.*

In Our discourse of last Easter, as you well remember, Our paternal heart had a special word of comfort and encouragement for those whose fidelity to Christ is forcing them to walk the sorrowful Way of the Cross. These, Venerable Brothers and beloved children, are members of the same Body, Christ, as you. Through the Sacrament of our altars His same life-giving Spirit has nourished their souls and yours. If they are asked to suffer for our faith the physical pain and mental anguish of Christ's passion, have they not a special claim to the prayerful sympathy of Christ's other members? «Who is weak, and I am not weak?» (2 Cor. 11, 29), *was the cry of the apostolic heart of St. Paul; it should find a clear echo in every truly Catholic heart, - an echo which like the Apostle's voice, is not broken against the narrow confines erected by man, but carries to every corner of the earth, where members of Christ's Body are suffering and in need.*

This burning, unquenchable zeal to defend and to spread God's Kingdom on earth, which made St. Paul's soul so truly Christ-like, has run through all the sessions of your Congress, We are sure, and has been fanned to steadier, purer flame by your love of the divine Victim of our Holy Sacrifice. Your lives will bear testimony to that zeal of an apostle. And may the Heart of Jesus in the most Blessed Sacrament be praised, adored and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even to the end of time.

With this familiar prayer on Our lips, as a pledge of the Sacred Heart's tenderest and overflowing love for all men, to those present, to all who have taken part in the Congress even though only in spirit, to all Our dear children of the United States and of those countries represented by their Bishops, with the deep affection of Our paternal heart We impart the Apostolic Benediction.

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1941

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VATICAN

R 7326

28 JUL 1941

Registry Number } R 7326/30/57.

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See).

No. 57 (55/11/41).

Dated 10th July, 1941.

Received in Registry } 29th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War: British attitude towards the German attack on the Soviet Union.

Refers to Holy See despatch No.53 of 9th July (C 8407/61/18).

Transmits copy of a supplementary memorandum, based on Foreign Office telegram No.93 of 5th July to the Holy See (R 6681/200/57) on the subject of the British attitude towards the German attack on the Soviet Union. Will hand this memorandum to the Cardinal Secretary of State, with the request that he communicate it to the Pope.

Last Paper.

R 7329

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

This should make our position clear to the Holy See.

W.C. Knight 31/7.

N. Dept ARD 1/8 EOD 2/8.
C. Dept 2.6/8/41
Mr Rapheal.
Amb.
11/8

S.D.
31/7

(Action completed.)

RC 1/8

(Index.)

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Next Paper.

R 7352

20817 F.O.P.

R

8

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

July 10th 1941.

No. 57
(55/11/41)

R 7326
29 JUL 1941

Sir,

C8404/61/18

With reference to my despatch No. 53 of July 9th, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a supplementary Memorandum, based on your telegram No. 93 of July 5th, on the subject of the British attitude towards the German attack on Russia, which I shall hand to the Cardinal Secretary of State, with the request that he communicate it to the Pope.

R6681/200/57

I have the honour to be,

Sir;

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

55/10/41.

MEMORANDUM

With reference to the Memorandum No. 55/6/41 of July 5th on the subject of the attitude of His Majesty's Government towards the German attack on Russia, the following extract from the speech of His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons on July 6th offers further valuable enlightenment:-

"The attack on the Soviet Union, in defiance of solemn and repeated pledges, has given mankind the final proof, if further proof was needed, of the world-wide scope of the Nazi lust for power. No Nazi posturing can now deceive the world. All must realise that, whatever their system of Government, wherever their geographical position, the great and immediate danger to their security is the existence in the world of the Nazi system, for whatever other considerations may be in balance, that is the greatest.

This country has probably fewer Communists than any nation in Europe. We have always hated the creed, but...

but that is not the issue. Russia has been invaded, wantonly, treacherously, without warning. Not even the Germans have seriously pretended provocation. Russians to-day are fighting for their soil. They are fighting the man who seeks to dominate the world. This is also our sole task. Confronted with this latest aggression, it is our determination not to relax but to intensify our efforts."

H.B.M. Legation to the Holy See,

July 10th 1941.

54

1941

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VATICAN

R 7352

29 JUL 1941

11

Registry Number R 7352/30/57

FROM Mr. Aveling. British Embassy to Belgium.

No. 80

Dated 25th July, 1941.

Received in Registry 29th July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War.

Transmits a copy of a report, dated 3rd July from the Belgian representative at the Holy See addressed to his Government. The report deals with Italian and Vatican opinion regarding the Russo-German war, Italo-German relations, the introduction of Nazi methods into the Italian educational system and the attitude of the Pope and the local Catholic Episcopate towards the new puppet State of Croatia.

Last Paper.

R 7326

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

An interesting report from one well qualified to judge of the attitude of the highest Vatican circles. The Holy See shows up extremely well, both as regards its tacit refusal to sponsor the "anti-Bolshevik crusade" and to recognise the new régime in Croatia, where clergy and people are united in silent opposition.

W. Churchill 3/8

Central Dept. 16/8

Northern Dept. 20/8

Mr Randall 25/8 (I have detached one spare copy for reading).

Mr. Sargent

I attach a N.B. the reference to incipient cases of resistance to the Fascist regime. R. V. Bowker. 5/8.

O.G. Sargent Anglo

(Action completed.) GC 26/8

(Index.) 28/8

Next Paper.

R 7542

R 7052
29 JUL 1941

British Embassy
to Belgium,
c/o Foreign Office
25th July, 1941.

No. 80.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a report, dated July 3rd, 1941, from the Belgian representative at the Holy See to his Government which M. Spaak has been good enough to send me.

2. The report deals with Italian and Vatican opinion regarding the Russo-German war, Italo-German relations, the introduction of Nazi methods into the Italian educational system and the attitude of the Pope and the local Catholic Episcopate towards the new puppet state of Croatia.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

A. Francis Acheson

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Copy.

Au point de vue social, on croit ici, dans les milieux ecclésiastiques bien informés, que le conflit germano-russe réveillera les aspirations révolutionnaires des communistes allemands et en favorisera la propaganda dans les rangs de l'armée, à la faveur des contacts qui nécessairement vont se multiplier entre eux et leurs compagnons russes.

Dans l'ordre politique, on croit, et on espère que, même dans le cas d'une victoire allemande complète, les pertes subies de leur côté produiront un affaiblissement durable de la force militaire germanique qui ébranlera le régime.

C'est pourquoi, dans le conflit germano-russe, le Saint-Siège n'éprouve aucune peine à rester neutre; il a tout à craindre, tant de l'un que de l'autre adversaire, et il souhaite qu'en toute hypothèse l'un et l'autre soient mis par cette lutte dans l'impossibilité de nuire plus longtemps à la société et à l'Eglise.

En vertu de l'Axe, le Gouvernement fasciste s'est déclaré en état de guerre avec la Russie au même moment où l'armée allemande déclanchait les hostilités contre ce pays. Depuis lors, une ou deux divisions italiennes sont parties pour le théâtre des opérations.

Le moins qu'on puisse dire, c'est que cette attitude a été accueillie sans enthousiasme par le peuple italien qui, dans l'ensemble, se demande non sans effroi où le conduira cette suite non interrompue de sanglantes équipées. Il est certain que, tant dans les milieux socialistes-communistes que dans le monde universitaire, se constituent des noyaux de résistance au régime fasciste. Pour le moment, il semble qu'on s'en tienne aux étiquettes et aux inscriptions séditieuses: mais on se demande si les adversaires du fascisme ne recourront pas, à la première occasion favorable, à des moyens plus violents.

Le renforcement de l'alliance italo-allemande, au grand dommage moral et religieux du peuple italien, se prouve aussi par le fait que, depuis le mois de septembre 1940, le Gouvernement fasciste procède graduellement à l'introduction dans les unités de la Jeunesse du "Littorio" (Gil.) des méthodes d'éducation en vogue chez la "Hitlerjugend". Le premier essai est tenté auprès des 6.000 jeunes gens des deux sexes, appartenant à la jeunesse italienne à l'étranger venue en Italie pour les vacances, mais que la déclaration de guerre du 10 juin 1940 a empêchés de rentrer chez eux. Comme ils sont soustraits à l'influence de leur éducation première, de leur famille et de leur milieu, on espère pouvoir leur inculquer plus facilement le culte du corps, du sol et du sang et en faire de futurs instituteurs et institutrices selon l'esprit fasciste.

Le Saint Père est informé exactement, surtout par son Vicaire à Rome, le Cardinal Marchetti, de l'introduction progressive de l'esprit naziste dans l'éducation de la jeunesse italienne. Aussi lorsque, il y a peu de temps, à l'occasion d'un Congrès de la Jeunesse féminine italienne à Rome, on fit la demande au Vatican pour qu'elle fut admise à défiler devant le Souverain Pontife, celui-ci fit répondre par un refus net qui n'admettait pas de réplique.

Malgré les instances du Gouvernement italien, jointes aux prières des gouvernants actuels de la Croatie, le Saint-Siège, suivant sa ligne de conduite traditionnelle, continue à ignorer officiellement le morcellement de la Yougoslavie opéré par les

Gouvernements

Gouvernements de Berlin et de Rome. De là, une anomalie diplomatique très remarquée: tandis qu'auprès du Quirinal est accrédité un ministre du nouveau royaume de Croatie, auprès du Vatican au contraire c'est le Ministre de Yougoslavie qui continue à représenter son pays tel qu'il était constitué avant le morcellement.

Le has lately been created by the Italians

Sagement, S.S. Pie XII attend la décision des traités qui seront conclus après la fin de la guerre. Ce faisant, Il répond aux désirs de la très grande majorité de la population Croate, Dalmate et Slovène qui reste complètement étrangère et intérieurement hostile au statut territorial qui lui a été imposée au détriment de son indépendance: jamais il n'y est fait la moindre allusion, ni dans la presse locale, ni dans aucune autre manifestation libre de la vie publique.

L'épiscopat catholique du nouveau Royaume des Croates, à une seule exception près (l'archevêque de Sarajevo) feint d'ignorer le nouvel ordre de choses. L'archevêque d'Agram (Zagreb) Mrg. Stepinac, aurait décliné l'honneur de sacrer le nouveau roi qui devrait s'appeler Tomislaw II (Aymon de Spolète). Les Supérieurs des Ordres religieux ont adoptés la même attitude de résistance passive. Mécontent de se voir ignoré par le Saint-Siège et par les autorités religieuses de Croatie, le gouvernement d'Ante Pavelic a décidé une chose inouie dans les annales de la vie publique en Croatie: l'abstention complète de l'armée, de la magistrature, des écoles et du corps professoral, ainsi que de tous les fonctionnaires et dignitaires civils, lors de la procession solennelle de la Fête-Dieu le 12 juin dernier.

Cette abstention a élargi encore le fossé qui sépare le peuple croate et ses chefs religieux des gouvernants qui lui ont été imposés. La Gestapo, qui commande les services de la Sûreté publique en Croatie, pousse le gouvernement d'Anté Pavelic à des mesures de rigueur contre l'episcopat. Mais ce n'est pas une persécution instiguée par Berlin qui pourra mater les Croates, ni les disposer à accepter un statut qui, sous un faux-semblant d'autonomie, les livre au bon plaisir des Puissances de l'Axe.

Rome, le 3 juillet 1941.

56

R

1941

VATICAN

R 7542

3 AUG 1941

15

Registry Number } R 7542/30/57.

FROM Transocean, (communicated).

No.

Dated

Received in Registry } 8th Aug.1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War: Sermon by Monsignore Constantini.

Transmits Transocean message dated Venice, 6th August. Reports that Monsignore Constantini, Secretary of the Vatican Congregation propaganda fide, in a recent sermon, stood up for the victory of the Allied Forces over Soviet Russia. Quotes a part of Monsignore Constantini's speech.

Last Paper.

R 7352

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

If this is all the Axis can produce in support of the "anti-Communist Crusade" we need not worry much about the attitude of the Church in Italy. I have never heard of this Prelate, who may or may not fill the office mentioned, but neither he nor what he is quoted as saying is of very great importance.

AM/K 12/8 WLCK 9/8.

Mr Randall

Central Dept. 25/8

(Action completed.) DC 26/8

(Index.) 25/11

Next Paper.

R 7556

~~KOEU~~ 137
TRANSOCEAN IN ENGLISH. (FOM) 1012 6.8.41

SERMON BY MONSIGNORE CONSTANTINI - VATICAN QUISLING

(M.O.I. FOR ATTENTION HON. R. HOPE).

VENICE: MONSIGNORE CONSTANTINI, SECRETARY OF THE VATICAN CONGREATION PROPAGANDA FIDE, HELD A SERMON IN CONCORDIA BASILICAIN THE COURSE OF WHICH HE STOOD UP FOR THE VICTORY OF ALLIED FORCES OVER SOVIET RUSSIA. HE SAID: "IN THAT VAST COUNTRY WHERE THE DEVIL HIMSELF APPEARS TO HAVE FOUND HIS REPRESENTATIVES IN LEADERS OF REPUBLICS, BRAVE SOLDIERS ALSO OFOUR FATHERLAND ARE FIGHTING BIG BATTLES. WE WISH MOST SINCERELY THAT THIS BATTLE MAY END IN THE FINAL VICTORY OF THE ALLIES AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF NEGATIVE AND RIOTOUS BOLSHEVISM". ++++++++++16.53++++++6.8.41

R 7542
2 AUG 1941

57

R

VATICAN

1941

R 7556

9 AUG 1941

17

Registry Number } R 7556/30/57

FROM Transocean communicated.

No.

Dated -

Received in Registry } 9th August, 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War.

A report from Rome states that Minister Roberto Farinacci, in the organ of state, is ever more urgently asking the Vatican about the attitude of the Holy See with regard to Europe's present fight against Bolshevism. The organ points out that many Catholics in various countries are absolutely without guidande since Atheist Soviet Russia entered the war. They wish for direction in order to know for whom they are to pray.

Last Paper.

R 7542

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

A typically Farinaccean attempt to browbeat the Holy See, which I feel sure will not be drawn, at least in the sense desired.

When we feel, as we sometimes do, that we have reason to ~~feel~~ be disappointed with the attitude of the Vatican, we may console ourselves with the reflexion that our enemies have much less reason to be satisfied with it.

W.L.C.K 9/8.

Mr. Randall. Amb. 12/8

Central Dept. 15/8

(Action completed.) MWB 21/8

(Index.) Dr 25/11

Next Paper.

R 7576

20817 F.O.P.

Transocean (5)8/41 W Knight W Dew

Vatican's Attitude to Russia Demanded.

(0146). No. 115. Rome. Ever more urgently the organ of State Minister Roberto Farinacci is asking the Vatican what about the Holy See's attitude apropos Europe's present fight against Bolshevism. The organ points out many Catholics in various countries are absolutely without guidance since atheist Soviet Russia entered war. They wish to get directions in order to know for whom they are to pray. The organ adds: We regret not being able to send all those Catholics volumes of Papal encyclicals in which Popes are strongly opposing Bolshevism which is negating all religion and civilization. Only a few years ago Pope Pius 11th again wanted to condemn the policy of the Soviet Union and extend his blessing to Franco's legions who in Spain were also fighting in the name of Jesus Christ. To-day large masses of Catholics are forming a bloc of spiritual forces in the Axis Powers. On the other side Jews are trying to guide Protestants Orthodox and atheists. These Catholics who are waiting for directions must feel uncertain when the Vatican's organ is on the other side more than on this side. Therewith Farinacci's organ is repeating its attack of Tuesday on "Osservatore". Farinacci's organ then points out that various Bishops of Europe called upon God Almighty to bless the armies of the Axis Powers. Also that in United States several high clerics are not joining Roosevelt and that high ecclesiastic O'Connel, in the name of several other United States Bishops, openly opposed Roosevelt's policy.

R 7520 APR 1941

59

R

1941

VATICAN

R 7707

16 AUG 1941

19

Registry Number R 7707/30/57.

FROM Foreign Office
Minute, Mr. Perowne.

No.

Dated 13th Aug. 1941.

Received in Registry 16th Aug. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope towards the War.

Records information given by Mme. Levillier the English wife of the Argentine Ambassador at Montevideo, about an interview she had with Dr. Ruy Guinazu the new Argentine Minister for Foreign Affairs on his return to Buenos Aires from the Vatican. According to Mme. Levillier the Pope left the Ambassador in no doubt as to where his sentiments lay in regard to the outcome of the war. His Holiness also said he only had to raise his little finger in order that the whole Fascist régime in Italy would fall to the dust.

Last Paper.

R7576

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

(See minutes)

I find it difficult to believe that the Pope ever spoke as stated with regard to the Fascist regime.

W.R.C.Knight 19/8.

I too.

F.D.
20/8

(Action completed.)

Mins. 21/8.

(Index.)

Jan
5574

Next Paper.

R 7900

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

20

R 7707
16 AUG 1941

Southern Department.

I report what follows for what it may be worth.

A friend of mine has told me that, in a letter recently received from Mme. Levillier, the English wife of the Argentine Ambassador at Montevideo, she described an interview she had had with Dr. Ruy Guinazu, the new Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs, on his way back to Buenos Aires from his Embassy at the Vatican.

According to Mme. Levillier, the Pope, at his farewell interview with the Ambassador, left the latter in no doubt as to where his sentiments lay in regard to the outcome of the war. He also said that he only had to raise his little finger in order that the whole Fascist régime in Italy would topple into the dust. When asked why he did not do this, His Holiness declared that he did not interfere in temporal affairs.

We don't regard Sr Guinazu as specially Anglophil - or indeed as particularly friendly, though I believe he was on good terms with our Embassy at Rome. I used to know Mrs Levillier slightly many years ago & sh.d say that she was reasonably reliable.

J. V. F.

13th August 1941.

60

1941

R

VATICAN

R 7900

24 AUG 1941

21

Registry Number R 7900/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr.Kelly, Berne.

No. 1856

Dated 22nd Aug.1941.

Received in Registry 24th Aug.1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope to the Anglo-American declaration.

Following from Mr.Osborne telegram No.179 of 18th August. Reports that he could get no reaction from the Cardinal Secretary of State on the Anglo-American declaration of peace aims, except that the Pope's own basic principles of peace (see the Christmas addresses of 1939 and 1940) went still further. Considers that the reference in point 6 to the final destruction of Nazi tyranny precludes any possibility of endorsement by the Vatican.

Last Paper.

R 7707

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Nobody expects any public endorsement of Point 6 by the Vaticans.

W.R.C.Hughes

Central Depts. 28/8 25/8.

Mr Randall.

The Pope's Christmas address of 1939 is contained in C 89/89/18 & 1940, and that of 1940 in R 810/30/57 & 1941.

P.Dixon 26/8

J.G. 26/8

(Action completed.)

DC 29

(Index.)

25/11

Next Paper.

R 7936

22489 5/41 F.O.P.

R

22

[Cypher]

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

R 7900
24 AUG 1941

Mr. Kelly
No. 1856
22nd August, 1941

D. 4.42 p.m. 22nd August, 1941
R. 6.50 p.m. 22nd August, 1941

a.a.a.a.a.a.a

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 179 of August 18th.

I could get no reaction from Cardinal Secretary of State on Anglo-American declaration of peace aims except that the Pope's own basic principles of peace (see his Christmas addresses of 1939 and 1940) went still further. I think that reference in point 6 to final destruction of Nazi tyranny precludes any possibility of endorsement by Vatican.

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 7936
25 AUG 1941

23

Registry Number R 7936/30/57.

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See, to Sir O. Sargent

No. 14/20/41.

Dated 7th Aug. 1941.

Received in Registry 25th Aug. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Reception by the Pope of M. Pavelitch.

Refers to Mr. Nichol's letter of 21st July (R 6797/30/57). Points out that although the Pope's reception of M. Pavelich necessarily had a bad effect, yet hopes that deserved credit will be given to the Cardinal Secretary of State for his own refusal to receive Pavelic after the Papal audience. This is most unusual, and the purpose was to make it quite plain that, though the Pope as spiritual head of the church had received the Catholic Pavelic, the chief executive official of the Vatican State had declined to receive the regicide in his official and political capacity.

Last Paper.

R 7900

References.

R 6305/297/92

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

We can certainly give His Holiness a good mark for his refusal, "in spite of all temptations", not merely to bless, but to say a single word in favour of ~~the~~ Hitler's "anti-Communist Crusade."

W.R.C. ~~Norgate~~ 26/8.

Sy 28/8
Central Dept.

Mrs Rampledge.
Aug R.
26/8

(Action completed.)

DC 30/8

(Index.)

Ger 25/11

Next Paper.

R 8015

22699 7/41 F.O.P.

Rec'd 23/8

Enter R 7938

14/20/41

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY.
August 19th 1941.

R 7938
25 AUG 1941

My dear Sargent,

As Phil Nichols has left the Southern Department and I do not yet know who has taken his place, I am sending you this line in regard to the first paragraph of his letter to me (R 6797/30/37) of July 21st.

I can quite understand the deplorable effect of the Pope's reception of Pavelic and I think it is fully realised here. Anyway I will take a further occasion to rub it in. On the other hand I hope that deserved credit is given to the Cardinal Secretary of State for his own refusal to receive Pavelic after the Papal audience. This is most unusual, if not unprecedented, and the purpose was to make it quite plain that, though the Pope as spiritual head of the Church had received the Catholic Pavelic, the chief executive official of the Vatican State had declined to receive the regicide in his official and political capacity.

While I cannot defend the audience to Pavelic,

there...

Sir Orme Sargent, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Foreign Office.

there is another matter on which I think the Pope and the Vatican deserve some credit. And that is that they have given no slightest indication of endorsement or support of Hitler's anti-Bolshevik "crusade". I have not been able to ascertain that pressure has been applied and resisted, but I should certainly suppose this to be the case. And there have been instances in the Italian press (so I am told) of attempts to explain away the failure of the Church to acclaim the crusade. So I think the Pope should be given a good mark for this, to set against the bad marked earned over the Pavelic business and the other, though not so black one resulting from the Vatican's failure to prevent the expulsion from Italy of the Yugoslav Minister.

Yours ever,

D. G. Duncan.

42

R

1941

VATICAN

R 8015

28 AUG

26

Registry Number } R 8015/30/57

FROM Transocean
Communicated.

No.

Dated 26th Aug. 1941.

Received in Registry } 28th Aug. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Vatican attitude to the 8-point declaration.

The first statement of the attitude of the Vatican to the Roosevelt-Churchill statement is contained in an article in the "Osservatore Romano" commenting on Mr. Churchill's broadcast. In its summary of Mr. Churchill's speech the Vatican journal omitted all mention of religious demonstrations on the occasion of this Anglo-American meeting on the Atlantic including Divine Service aboard ship and hymns sung jointly by Americans and Englishmen. This censorship is said to be due to the fact that Anglo-American peace-aims have not found the full approval of the Vatican and were not regarded as compatible with Christian morals.

Last Paper.

R 7936

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

We shall no doubt hear from Mr Osborne in due course what the "Osservatore Romano" really did say.

W. R. C. Knight 29/8.

Mr Rapdall. AH. 30/8

Qu. & R. 1/9

(Action completed.)

Dr 2/9

(Index.)

Dr 25/11

Next Paper.

R 8190

Transocean (5).

R 8015
28 AUG 1941

Sutter
Mr Knight

Vatican Reaction to Churchill Broadcast.

(1551). No. 68. Vatican. The first attitude of the Vatican to the Roosevelt-Churchill statement is contained in Tuesday's "Osservatore Romano" in its comment on Churchill's broadcast. In its summary of the British Premier's speech the Vatican journal cut out all remarks of Churchill about religious demonstrations on the occasion of this Anglo-American meeting on the Atlantic including Divine Service aboard ship and hymns sung jointly by Englishmen and Americans. In circles close to the Vatican this censorship is said to be due to the fact that Anglo-American peace aims have not found the full approval of the Vatican and were regarded as not compatible with Christian morals. This is the more so, it is said here, if one thinks of that part of the Declaration about the treatment to be meted out by the Democracies for the Vanquished. Therefore, a Christian demonstration at this meeting is regarded here as misplaced.

Transocean 26/8

ZL.
MOI FOR ATTENTION HON R.HOPE RELIGIOUS DIVISION ALSO

28

Mr Knight

RENNES (BRUSSELS) IN FRENCH FOR FRANCE .
08.30 27.8.41.

'' OSSERVATORE ROMANO '' ON ROOSEVELT - CHURCHILL DECLRATION .

VATICAN CITY :- TUESDAY 'S '' OSSERVATORE ROMANO '' CONTAINS THE FIRST FORMULATION OF THE VATICAN 'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE ROOSEVELT - CHURCHILL DECLARATION , AS WELL AS TOWARDS CHURCHILL 'S RECENT SPEECH . IN ITS REPORT ,'' OSSERVATORE ROMANO '' LEAVES OUT EVERYTHING CHURCHILL SAID ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES WHICH TOOK PLCE DURING THE ANGLO - AMERICAN MEETING . ACCORDING TO CIRCLES CLOSE TO THE VATICAN , THIS CENSORING OF CHURCHILL 'S SPEECH IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE POINTS OF THE ANGLO - AMERICAN DECLARATION DO NOT MEET WITH THE FULL APPROVAL OF THE VATICAN AND ARE NOT INSPIRED BY CHRISTIAN ETHICS.M FIRST AND FOREMOST , IT IS DECLARED. THE VATICAN DISAPPROVES OF THE ANGLO - SAXON LEADERS INTENTION CONCERNING THE TREATMENT TO BE METED OUT BY THE DEMOCRACIES TO VICTORS AND VANQUISHED . SECONDLY , THE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES WHICH TOOK PL CE AT THE MEETING (ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN OUT OF PLACE ?)

+++++++ 10.37+++27.8.41++++

63

29

R

1941

VATICAN

R 8190

4 SEP 1941

Registry Number } R 8190/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See.

No. 70(9/29/41).

Dated 11th Aug., 1941.

Received in Registry } 4th Sept., 1941.

R:Vatican.

The possibility of the creation of a Christian front.

Transmits copy of a memorandum by Mr. Leigh-Smith dealing with a recent series of articles in the "Gazette de Lausanne" on the subject of the possibility of the creation of a Christian Front, i.e. a union of the Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox Church in the face of the present threats to Christianity. While the Vatican might well approve a United Front in the form of measures of common defence, thinks it would be found to be adamant in the matter of any concessions on dogma.

Last Paper.

R 8015

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

A united Christian front against Hitlerism, if it were possible, is what we should like to see, but the Pope could not openly champion such a movement for obvious reasons.

There has been greatly increased Protestant-Catholic Co-Operation in this country recently, cf. the Christian Front Councils referred to in the penultimate para. of the memo. I am not well up on the subject, but I imagine that these councils may be connected with Cardinal Hinsley's Sword of the Spirit movement, which has had considerable success both inside and outside the Catholic Church in this country.

Mr

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 11/9	Dre 11/a

Next Paper.

R 8448

22699 7/41 F.O.P.

Mr Osborne is certainly on safe ground when he says that the Vatican would be adamant as regards concessions on dogma. Obviously dogma is not a matter which is subject to concessions, nor is it apparently one which need enter into consideration in connection with the kind of co-operation here aimed at.

W.D.C. Knight 5/9.

Rilky 5/9.
Central Dept.

Mr Randall.

P.D. Dixon 5/9

Catholic participation in "United Christian" organisations in this country is increasing, and as the Vatican has more than once stressed the challenge of totalitarianism to the Christian foundations of our civilisation as a whole, there will certainly be no bar on common Christian defence measures of countries, provided the in various. local hierarchy can agree on the right basis — as it has in the U.K. But it is useless to expect a Vatican blessing on inter-denominational activities without discussion: it is not really necessary: action by the different local hierarchies is quite sufficient.

AngR. 8/9

Wheller 10/9

31

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

August 11th 1941.

No. 70.
(9/29/41)

R 8190
4 SEP 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit a short Memorandum by Mr. Leigh-Smith dealing with a recent series of articles in the "Gazette de Lausanne" on the subject of the possibility of the creation of a Christian Front, i.e., a union of the Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox Churches in the face of the present threats to Christianity. While the Vatican might well approve an United Front in the form of measures of common defence, it would, I think, be found to be adamant in the matter of any concessions on dogma.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

The Right Honourable

Anthony Eden , M.P.,M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

MEMORANDUM.

A series of articles has appeared in the "Gazette de Lausanne" of the 24th, 25th and 28th July on what is called the "Greatest Problem of our Century" - the urgent necessity of constituting a united Christian front, by which is meant a working basis between the Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Churches in face of the onslaught of those anti-Christian forces which are endeavouring to play off one branch of Christianity against another and progressively to nullify all Christian influence in public life.

The articles proceed to review steps made towards Christian unity since the last war, notably the Pope's reiterated appeals to all the faithful for a common fight against the godless, the development of "an oecumenical movement" grouping together Protestant and Orthodox circles, an inter-denominational protest against the religious persecutions in Russia, the activity of the international commission "Pro Deo", the study in the Catholic Church through the Benedictines, Dominicans and Jesuits of the Orthodox Church, frequent meetings between Anglicans and Russian Orthodox in Great Britain, the mutual respect arising from the transfer of Catholic populations in the Rhine district to Protestant regions in Germany, meetings between German Catholics and Protestants promoted by Monsignor Gröber, Bishop of Freiburg, important conferences in England under the successive presidents of high Catholic and Anglican dignitaries for the study of a new order based on the Pope's declarations, and the welcome to representatives of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches accorded by Archbishop Eidan at a recent General Assembly of the Lutheran Church in Sweden.

Nevertheless the articles observe that all this is absolutely inadequate. What is required is the formation of permanent contact bodies which would elaborate defensive and counter-offensive action by the three principal Christian

denominations....

denominations. The aim of these bodies should be to realise from the top to the bottom of the ecclesiastical ladder the line of conduct to be followed when the Church is threatened from its foundations. Priests in every parish should be given precise directions and should know in their turn how to teach the faithful to distinguish the limit of possible concessions and to know from what point they must put up a general and uncompromising resistance.

Empax telegram No.387 to Berne of yesterday's date states that Christian Front councils have been formed at Nottingham from 30 members, 10 being from the Anglican, Catholic and Free Church bodies respectively. Bishop McNulty states that these Councils would deal with such matters as youth movement, religion in schools and family allowances.

A move in the direction of a united Christian Front seems therefore to be in the air and to have the blessing of the Catholic Church in various countries including England. So far as is known this move has not yet been discouraged by the Vatican. Is it too much to hope that on the contrary the Vatican too will one day give it their blessing?

5th August, 1941.

64

34

R

VATICAN

1941

R 8486

8 SEP 1941

Registry Number R 8486/30/57

FROM Mr. Tower to Mr. Randall.

No.

Dated 13th Sept.,1941.

Received in Registry 18th Sept., 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged statement by the Pope to the Roumanian Minister to the Vatican.

Encloses copy of a press intercept stating that according to the French Catholic paper "La Croix", the Pope, in receiving the new Roumanian Minister to the Vatican "congratulated the Roumanian people "on the wisdom of their Government and fine conduct".

Will be interested to know whether the Pope ever said anything of the sort.

Last Paper.

R 8190

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft) Mr Osborne, H.O.
See, from, Mr Howard
Sept: 18.

(Minutes.)

MR 19/9

(Action completed.)

DC 19/9

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 8732

SECRET

35

TO: MR. RANDALL.
FROM: MR. TOWER.

R 8486
18 SEP 1941

13th Sept.,1941

The enclosed press intercept reached me during my absence on a week's holiday. You will note that according to the French paper "LA CROIX", the Pope, in receiving the new Roumanian Minister to the Vatican, "congratulated the Roumanian people on the wisdom of their government and fine conduct." I shall be interested to know whether the Pope ever said anything of the sort.

Tower.

Mr. Knight
Southern Dept.
Can you say ?
AWGR.
15/9.

This seems highly improbable & hardly worth a telegraphic enquiry.
? Dft to Mr Osborne by bag. + a form to Mr Tower.
Eldane
Sept 15

15/9

Wt. 10[illegible]26 1000M 5/41 G. & B. Ltd. 51-238.

Tower

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Secret.

W/T

	STATION.	TO.	FROM.	FREQUENCY.	DATE & TIME TRANSMITTED.	DATE COPIED.	BY WHOM.	REMARKS.
	DH	YOP	FYN		1030.4	5.9	TEP	

SEP 1941 P.M. GERMAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE UNIT.

ALL BEFORE TEXT.

ZZZ VICHY 4 67 (4).9.41 1135

PRESS DIGEPRESS BUCAREST

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. C8486/30/57

E.R.W.

Draft.

Mr. Osborne,
Holy See.

From Mr. Howard.

By Bag.

P.
16/9

C8a
37

18 September, 1941.

OUT FILE

Dear Osborne.

We have heard that the French Catholic paper "La Croix" has reported that the Pope, in receiving the new Roumanian Minister to the Vatican, "congratulated the Roumanian people on the wisdom of their government and fine conduct".

It seems to us most improbable that the Pope said anything of the kind, but we should be grateful for your comments.

Yours sincerely

Ed D. T. Howard.

38

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

18th September, 1941.

(R 8486/30/57)

OUT FILE

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It seems to us most improbable that the Pope said anything of the kind, but we should be grateful for your comments.

Yours sincereby

Ed D. G. Howard.

F.D'A.G. Osborne, Esq., C.M.G.

65

39

R

VATICAN

1941

R 8732

29 SEP 1941

Registry Number R 8732/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See.
81

No. (35/40/41)

Dated 9th Sept. 1941.

Received in Registry 29th Sept. 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the War.

Reports that in an article in the "Journal de Genève" of 7th August entitled "The Papacy and the War", a copy of which is enclosed, it is stated in the last paragraph that "Anyway, the Vatican refused to consider this war as a war of religion. If the "Civiltà "Cattolica" is to be believed, the Vatican refuses to admit the possibility of the Russian campaign becoming a crusade". Encloses a résumé of the two articles in the "Civiltà Cattolica" prepared by Mr. Leigh Smith. It offers in brief form an interesting and authoritative exposition of the Pope's position and activities in connexion with the War.

Last Paper.

R 8486

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

I think we have given the Vatican due credit for its attitude as regards the so-called "crusade", and good use of it has been made in our propaganda, even perhaps to the extent of causing the Vatican some embarrassment.

W.L.C. Knight 30/9

Sir. 6/+ 7/10
General Dept.
Northern Dept. 9/10 EC 9/10.
Mr Randall.
Ang R.
2/+

Ath. 1/10

O.G.Sargent Oct 3

(Action completed.) D C 24/10

(Index.) 25/11

Next Paper.

R 8733

21190 F.O.P

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

September 9th 1941.

No. 81.
(35/40/41)

R 8732

29 SEP 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that in an article in the "Journal de Génève" of August 7th entitled, "The Papacy and the War", of which I enclose copy, it is stated in the last paragraph that:-

"Anyway, the Vatican refuses to consider this war as a 'war of religion'. If the "Civiltà Cattolica" is to be believed, the Vatican refuses to admit the possibility of the Russian campaign becoming a crusade."

2. The "Civiltà Cattolica" is the fortnightly review published by the Jesuits and it is therefore questionable whether its views can always be accepted as representing official Vatican opinion. Certainly the Jesuits and the Vatican do not see eye to eye on the subject of broadcasting, for the former have recently been forbidden by the latter to continue their condemnation of Nazi anti-religious policy. The passage referred to by the "Journal de Génève" is to be found in the second of two articles in the issues of the "Civiltà Cattolica" of July 5th and 19th on "The Position of the Pope in the Present Conflict." It reads as follows:-

"Two questions connected with the present conflict called for an authoritative judgment (by the Pope): the religious question and the moral conduct of the war; both have been dealt with on repeated occasions and in no uncertain terms.

"As regards the first, while it must be denied that the

present...

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

present conflict is a religious war, - as attempts have sometimes been made to present it - it is nevertheless not so extraneous to religion, especially for the nations involved, as not to be in some measure connected with it. But it is still a long way from this connection, which is somewhat disquieting for the future, to a crusade in any sense of the word."

3. I think that the Vatican should be given every credit for its abstention from any word or gesture indicating endorsement of the Axis pretence that the German attack on Russia is a crusade against Bolshevism. The Axis Powers, and particularly Germany, would probably have been ready to pay a good price for Vatican support and the Vatican's own horror of Bolshevism would have impelled it towards acceptance of the crusade theory.

4. I enclose a resumé of the two articles in the "Civiltà Cattolica", which has been prepared for me by Mr. Leigh-Smith. It offers in brief form an interesting and authoritative exposition of the Pope's position and activities in connection with the war. As the writer in the "Journal de Génève" has pointed out, there is an astonishing parallelism between the attitude of Pius XII to-day and that of Benedict XV in the last war.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Dunn.

Journal de Genéve No.187 7/8/41

La papauté et la guerre

Rome, fin juillet.

Aujourd'hui comme à l'époque de la première guerre mondiale, de nombreuses sphères internationales ont souhaité que le pape prît position en faveur de l'un ou l'autre groupe de belligérants, qu'il se prononçât en tant qu'arbitre de la morale chrétienne. Un tel point de vue prouve non seulement de la naïveté, mais une ignorance crasse de l'histoire. Au moyen âge, les papes étaient bien plus des combattants politiques (à l'avantage de l'Eglise) que des arbitres; ils étaient les alliés du parti qui répondait le mieux aux intérêts de l'Eglise.

Celle-ci n'est pas une cour de justice idéale, un tribunal international, un oracle de morale et d'équité. La papauté apparaît bien mieux comme un complexe politique vivant de sa vie propre, régi par les propres lois de son histoire.

Dans la présente guerre, la position de Pie XII n'est pas moins difficile que celle de Benoît XV. Alors, le pape était le « prisonnier du Vatican ». Aujourd'hui, le Vatican est un Etat indépendant. C'est la situation particulière de l'Etat du Vatican qui conditionne la position actuelle du pape. Et l'on sait que ce territoire est totalement enclavé dans l'Etat italien.

D'autre part, la neutralité absolue du Saint-Siège est définie *a priori* par l'article 24 du traité de Latran de 1929. Dans cet article, le Saint-Siège s'engage à renoncer à toute forme de belligérance et à entretenir des relations diplomatiques normales avec tous les Etats. Sur la base de ces déclarations, on ne saurait prétendre que le Saint-Siège devrait prendre position contre les Etats totalitaires.

Si l'histoire ne se répète jamais et si chaque époque est différente de la précédente, il existe pourtant un parallélisme frappant entre la position de Benoît XV et l'attitude de Pie XII.

Dans ses messages, le pape Della Chiesa refusa tout d'abord d'appeler les belligérants par leurs noms; toujours il parlait des faits, jamais des pays ni des personnes. Ainsi les expressions du regret ou de la plainte conservaient toujours un caractère général. S'il faisait allusion aux horreurs de la guerre, à son extension, à sa prolongation, Benoît XV se gardait de condamner tel ou tel belligérant.

En second lieu, Benoît XV proposa dans la première année de la guerre, un armistice pour les fêtes de Noël; il ne rencontra aucun écho. Troisièmement, le pape ordonna des prières officielles pour la paix. Quatrièmement, le Saint-Siège poursuivit une intense activité humanitaire et charitable dans tous les pays atteints par la guerre.

Cinquièmement, Benoît XV se conforma aux trois derniers siècles d'histoire de l'Eglise en mettant en œuvre tous les moyens politico-diplomatiques dont il disposait pour éviter une extension de la guerre et abréger celle-ci. Il tenta, en particulier, de retenir l'Italie et plus tard les Etats-Unis hors du conflit.

Sixièmement, Benoît XV tenta d'agir plus directement entre les belligérants. Dans de nombreux messages, le pape décrivit l'image de la paix à venir comme une paix de compromis; les belligérants la repoussèrent com-

me ressemblant trop à une paix blanche.

Le parallélisme avec l'attitude de Pie XII est si déconcertant qu'on se demande si l'existence d'une tradition n'étouffe pas la possibilité de nouvelles initiatives. Les méthodes de Pie XII sont les mêmes que celles de Benoît XV; les circonstances se sont modifiées. Cette fois, le pape a basé toute sa politique sur la neutralité de l'Italie; lorsque celle-ci, peu à peu, passa à la « non-belligérance », puis entra en guerre, le point d'appui le plus sûr de l'Eglise disparut.

C'est dans son encyclique *Summi Pontificatus,* de l'automne 1939, que transparaît le mieux le point de vue de Pie XII: il montre le développement idéologique qui conduit nécessairement à la guerre. Dans cette encyclique, de même que dans son message de Noël 1939, sont énoncées les données qui devraient assurer, sur une base chrétienne, la paix juste et notamment: le droit à l'existence de toutes les nations, petites et grandes; le désarmement; l'établissement d'institutions internationales destinées au maintien des traités; la réalisation des droits légitimes des peuples.

Le pape a essayé, dans de nombreuses négociations avec les milieux intéressés, de faire passer ces principes dans le domaine des réalités; le succès n'a pas récompensé ses efforts. Et la base de conversation se rétrécit encore le jour l'Italie entra dans le conflit. Si le pape avait pu agir dans le cadre de la neutralité italienne, il n'aurait pas été difficile à la diplomatie du Vatican de réunir les efforts poursuivis d'Espagne aux Balkans en faveur de la neutralité, pour les conjuguer ensuite avec ceux des Etats-Unis. Ainsi la guerre aurait été localisée (c'est là le point de vue du Vatican) avec la perspective d'une paix proche.

D'ailleurs, le Vatican refuse de considérer cette guerre comme une « guerre de religion ». Si l'on en croit la *Civilta cattolica,* il se refuse à admettre que la campagne de Russie devienne une croisade. Tout cela montre clairement que le Vatican refuse de se laisser enfermer dans le réseau serré de la seconde conflagration mondiale. Avec raison, le Vatican peut redonner de l'actualité à cette formule quelque peu oubliée aujourd'hui, que la politique de l'Eglise consiste à ne faire aucune politique. De même que sous le pontificat de Benoît XV, l'Eglise catholique se borne sous Pie XII, le *Pastor angelicus,* à concentrer son activité aux vertus de charité chrétienne, puisque ses essais répétés en faveur d'une paix juste ne réussirent pas.

H.

CIVILTA CATTOLICA 5/7/41

The Position of the Pope in the present Conflict

The Pope's voice alone soars charitable and impartial over the whirlwind of war, and although the Holy See is a human institution, it seeks the universal welfare of souls.

A thousand years history demonstrates the weight of its pronouncements, and the Holy See's long diplomatic experience creates an aureole of authority far above the political arena.

Only the extravagant Bolshevik mentality is capable of such statements as: "We will not recognise the political character of the Pope until we know how many cannons he can assemble" and demagogic propaganda evokes the image of an incendiary High Priest raining bombs on open cities.....

In addition, there is the conspiracy of silence which in various ways prevents the Papal accents reaching the people's ears, either by greeting the Vatican's words and deeds with simple journalistic acknowledgments, or by emasculating them ad usum delphini. The motives of this behaviour are difficult to penetrate, especially since during the last war both sides paid close and particular attention to the Holy See's attitude.

Another attitude consists in a subtle discontent that the Holy See does not take sides violently, an attitude that deeply embittered Benedict XV during the last war. History will show that Pius XII's equanimity, firmness and foresight have been no less considerable in the present conflict. (The article then goes on to quote Arnaud d'Agnel's book on "Benedict XV and the European Conflict," which shows that France received just as many proofs as any other nation at that time of the Papal Benevolence, although France had no representative at the Vatican).

Isolated Catholics of any one country are too blinded by ordinary patriotism to realise the extreme complexity of the Vatican's position, which has to consider its care of souls while reconciling it perpetually with special circumstances and the different "climates" of the time and the social and religious atmosphere of each country. No ordinary potentate is confronted with such a diversity of problems; no ordinary potentate has to reconcile heaven with earth, Time with eternity.

The Vatican's essential neutrality, sanctioned by Article 24 of the Lateran Treaty, demonstrates the sincere Papal desire to maintain good relations both with Italy and with other states. It is not the juridical, but the moral aspect of this neutrality that is interesting. This being so, one must ask: morally which side does the Holy See favour, and has it favoured one or the other?

In answer one can safely state that in every case in which justice and truth demanded his support, Pius XII has raised his voice, as is shown by the numerous official acts of the Holy See. The Pope may be neutral, but he cannot be indifferent. Pius XII has maintained the serene attitude exemplified in Benedict's famous speech to the Consistory of January 22nd, 1915: "In every case, while not adhering to either of the two parties, we are preoccupied equally with both."

The Pope's impartiality is a necessity and a duty, both in order not to diminish his personal authority with his sons, and to keep intact the Church's unity. Leo XIII said that the Papal

impartiality/

impartiality is that of a superior authority which "overrides the frontiers of nations and embraces all peoples to associate them in the true Gospel peace."

In answer to those who ask what is the positive attitude of the Holy See in the conflict, we say that it consists in its activity in favour of peace. The zeal both sides show in disculpating themselves from the responsibility for the war is an obscure sign that all is not yet lost and that the supreme merit of peace is still appreciated. And yet,, governments proclaim that the peoples prefer peace to war and that only in the case of serious and irreconcilable injuries to right and justice does the sacred flame of patriotism burn up - in which case, of course, the angels of God will accompany the marching armies with swords unsheathed.

The peace aimed at by Pius XII is neither the vulgar pacifism of pusillanimous spirits nor the pacifism of propaganda utilised in party struggles, but the real peace founded on justice and inspired by charity.

In the thorny problem of judging whether a pacific agreement is possible or not, and whether all means have been employed to avoid an outbreak of war, the moral means are the most important, and it is here that the spiritual competence of the Holy See comes into play, though it can only do so if the two rivals accept the disinterested admonitions of the Pontificate. In addition, the Holy See perceives in peace not only the advantage for individual nations of peace, but the intrinsic spiritual advantages as well, since Pius XII has declared that "world peace is also one of the Church's missionary intentions".

If inspite of all efforts peace is banished, the blame must not be attributed to the inefficacy of the Christian mission. It would be serious if the shipwreck had to be attributed not so much to over-excited political passions as to a terrible lay and agnostic spirit concerning Christian values in the leaders of thought and politics; for in that case war would be a recurrent phenomenon and restore the pre-Christian era of barbarism.

There is an abundance of documents that show that the Holy See has in many instances acted opportunely, within the limits of its supreme mission, to try to prevent the present conflict. The silver halcyon offered by a Japanese mission to the Pope proves this. The Pope's presence among the fighting peoples does not represent a resigned passivity, but a continuous fundamental effort to make right triumph over brute force.

Since the intensification of the conflict, the Vicar of Christ came constantly closer to the combatants and began to stand out in the triple rôle of Master, Judge and Father, with an ever increasing activity.

(1) As Master:-

Pius XII's efforts in favour of truth signified perhaps a struggle against all, but for the good of all. The process of ideological disintegration with which he found himself faced was clearly indicated when he wrote in the Encyclical Summi Pontificatus : "At the beginning of the road that leads to the spiritual and moral indigence of the present age stand the numerous and fatal efforts to dethrone Christ, the alienation from the law of the Truth he proclaimed, the Law of Love."

In addition to this masterly Encyclical, there has been an uninterrupted flow of interviews, radio messages and homilies, all of which insisted on the principles whose neglect leads to war; (faith in God, brotherhood, confidence), and condemned as contrary to natural and divine right the unheard of theory of the suppression of individuals considered as useless to the nation solely on account of physical and psychical deficiencies. His role of Master demands that consciences obliged to take up a position in the abnormal atmosphere of the war may see exactly what is their duty. In his broadcast message of June 29th, Pius XII addressed all these consciences that might be troubled by doubts and revealed to them the invisible World of Divine Providence whose wisdom rules, ordains, allows everything for the greater good of humanity.

The Holy See is also no less preoccupied than ordinary governments and peoples, though in a different manner, with post-war reorganisation, though it cannot be expected that it should trace new frontiers and recommend the distribution of raw materials; it does ~~not~~, however, interest itself already in preparing the corner stones of human and Christian morality without which peace would be an empty word. The artisans of reconstruction will derive a great advantage from welcoming the stream of light from Rome. The peoples of all the continents wish to be assured now that those responsible for generations to come will not repeat the errors of a recent past in which a peace without Christ dawned containing the seeds of fresh wars, a peace that did not deserve an enconium from Him that was ready to express it.

A large part of the Summi Pontificatus is taken up with these corner stones; the right of nations to life, including the small ones; disarmament; the setting up of organisations, guardians and guarantees of treaties; a fair distribution of riches among the peoples.

On the other hand, the recent Pentecost Message, which commemorates the Rerum Novarum, is a document in favour of Christian peace between the classes within national frameworks, a peace essential to the re-establishment of a stable order, e.g. the programme recommended to the Gioventu Femminile, a programme which may be found exemplified also in the recommendations made to the Company of Jesus concerning the education of the young. Thus, after invoking the Divine aid, the Pope incessantly promotes general collaboration for the gigantic labour of future reconstruction.

(2) As Judge/

(2) As Judge:-

Benedict XV already indicated during the last war, that an attitude of prudent reserve is dictated by the fact that during the conflict itself it is difficult to present it in a true light to the faithful, though it is true that this one presents fewer difficulties of that sort; time alone, however, will secure an accurate judgment. All this leads to the conclusion that although the Papal judgment should be extensible to every domain, it cannot be expected to descend constantly into the arena.

Two questions connected with the present conflict called for an authoritative judgment; the religious question, and the moral conduct of the war; both have been dealt with on repeated occasions & in no uncertain terms.

As regards the first, while it must be denied that the present conflict is a religious war,- as attempts have sometimes been made to present it,- it is nevertheless not so extraneous to religion, especially for the nations involved, as not to be in some measure connected with it. But it is still a long way from this connection, which is somewhat disquieting for the future, to a crusade in any sense of the word. To desire that the Pope shall declare himself on this point is perhaps to lend too willing an ear to politics and partisanship.

The Pope, in any event, has clearly defined his thought concerning this matter in his Paschal Message, addressed to pastors and faithful of places in which the Church is specially suffering. "Non est servus maior Domino suo. Si me persecuti sunt, et vos persequentur". (John XV, 20).

If Pius XII does not go further, one must assume that his far-seeing views do not consider the moment has arrived to burn his boats, still less to hope for a sincere return of his scattered sons to the fold, As regards countries which the war has temporarily subjected to a victor, Pius XII already in the spring campaign of 1940 reaffirmed the rights of such peoples in religious matters, and declared their protection to be "in conformity not only with the human and Christian conscience, but with true statesmanship". As a Pastor and judge who can form an estimate but does not demand that earthly powers shall approve his acts, the Pope has deserved well of the peoples on both sides, by his firm proclamation of common rights.

As to the question of the moral conduct of the war, from Saint Augustine to Benedict XV, the Catholic authorities have not ceased to put in a plea for humane methods, and Pius XII's Paschal message is a continuation of this attitude. Two aspects in particular of the conduct of the war should be reconcilable with Christian morality; the use of weapons and the treatment of the conquered and especially of civil populations. Although the Supreme Pontiff has praised certain acts of generosity, he could not refrain from qualifying as "atrocious" some of the methods employed and considers them as "exceeding the limits of what a just war permits of". Will the belligerents realise that Pius XII's exhortations are a supplication?

Will the pagan cry of "Vae victis" which we thought had died for ever, be heard rising again from the mouths of the conquered peoples? The difficulties that stand in the way of securing correct information prevent a definite opinion being formed on this matter. It is premature and indiscreet towish to know what steps the Holy Father has taken in this connection, but the world can be satisfied in knowing that the Holy See's position has been clearly and frequently stated;the necessary measures, one must reasomably suppose, are taken when prudence and the hope of a favourable answer dictate them. According to human conscience and true State wisdom, the Papal edicts have insisted

on/

on "respect for the life, honour and property of citizens, and respect for the family and its rights", and the substance of the Paschal Message is applicable to the belligerents of any nature in all parts of the world.

(3) As Father:-

Pius XII does not forget that he is Father above all. What he has said of the Church's parental rôle (in his answer to the Chilean Ambassador, December 30th 1939) can well be applied to him, and those words about the social question, a fortiori, are applicable to the war. As first and worthiest member of the Mystical Body, the Vicar of Christ interposes himself as mediator between God and men - and though this is a rôle which continues to arouse amazement and scepticism in the modern* the Pope has multiplied both prayers and recommendations to pray.

* mind

The difference between the Papal intentions in prayer and those of the various nations has in general been recognised i.e. that the Pope prays for peace, while the faithful pray for the victorious peace of their own country, and thus the Papal prayers, while they may not be in harmony with the legitimate aspirations of each country, can be joined in unconditionally by all.

Direct initiatives for peace have not been neglected (exchange of visits between Pius XII and King Victor Emmanuel, reception of the American Ambassador Taylor, an audience granted to the German Minister of Foreign Affairs, exchange of messages with the Emperor of Japan, interview granted to the Roumanian Conducator etc.). Thus it remains established that even if the war continues the Holy See has always tried to encourage a desire for collaboration (e.g. Roosevelt's answer published in the Osservatore Romano of January 21st 1940).

Pius XII's paternal sympathy has especially been extended to the victims of the war. St. Paul's flere cum flentibus is the law of Christ's charity. Every one remembers the expressions of condolence with Poland and the telegrams to the sovereigns of Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg of May 10th, 1940, the letter full of emotion sent to the French Episcopate and another to the Belgian Church, as well as the instructions issued to the representatives of the Holy See for assistance, material and general, to be given to refugees. No distinction was made concerning the quality of the sufferers - this Good Samaritan's mission was extended also to the victims of the Peruvian earthquake.

Particular solicitude was shown for prisoners of war, not this time as in the last war only for Italian prisoners of war (then in Germany) but on much wider lines; spiritual and material help were both offered; and in this connection the Pope's words of comfort were particularly inspired by the idea: "If earthly hopes have disappointed you, hope in God is not a delusion, cannot be." bitterly

The proposal for a Christmas truce will be remembered by all as an example of an exquisitely paternal spirit. In addition, the placing at everyone's disposal of the Vatican Information Office concerning prisoners or civilians resident in hostile or inaccessible countries, and the Vatican Radio broadcasts giving news and greetings between the faithful should not be forgotten.

Before all, the sovereign serenity of the Holy See above all to-day's passions cannot escape notice. Others say they want peace, but the Vatican really desires it and indicates what its intentions are, intentions that will not, one may be sure, be changed by any evolution of the conflict.

All/

All, and Catholics first and foremost, should listen toto corde to the Vicar of Christ's words of salvation and take no heed of the efforts of "a certain press" to sow discord among the faithful in the great Family of Peoples.

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1941

VATICAN

R 8733

29 SEP 1941

Registry Number } R 8733/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne
Holy See.

No. 83
(63/1/41).
Dated 10th Sept. 1941.

Received in Registry } 29th Sept. 1941.

R:Vatican.

Attitude of the Pope to the International situation.

Gives a summary of his audience with the Pope, on 10th September in which His Majesty's Minister gave His Holiness a general review of the present war situation compared with the position a year ago, and drew his attention to Hitler's major misjudgements and failures during the past twelve months. His Majesty's Minister spoke in particular of His Majesty's Government's position in regard to Russia emphasizing that we had allied ourselves with the latest victim of Hitlerian aggression, but that we maintained our dislike and rejection of ideological Communism and all its manifestations.

Last Paper.

R 8732

References.

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(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Although Mr Osborne had no particular subject for discussion, his "Tour d'horizon" served the double purpose of encouraging the Pope and drawing him on various matters connected with the war. There seems to be no doubt that, however much his official silence is to be regretted, His Holiness is heart and soul with us in the struggle against Nazism, and his attitude as regards the "anti-Bolshevist Crusade" leaves nothing to be desired.

By: Print.

W.R.C. Knight 3/9

Sir W. Hayter 6/X
Central Dept. 7/10
Northern Dept. 9/10
Mr Randall. 9/10
Mr Roberts
Mr Howard. 1/10
Sir R. Campbell 21/X
D.G. Tangent Oct 3

(Action completed.) DC 1/11

(Index.) 25/11

Next Paper.

R 8628

21190 F.O.P

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ITALY. September 29, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL. SECTION 1.

ARCHIVES

[R 8733/30/57] Copy No. 8

Mr. Osborne to Mr. Eden.—(*Received September* 29.)

(No. 83.) *British Legation to the Holy See,*
Vatican City, September 10, 1941.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that I had an audience with the Pope this morning, lasting for about three-quarters of an hour. I had recently suggested to Mgr. Montini, Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Secretariat of State, that I should like an audience, although admittedly I had nothing particular to communicate to His Holiness, and so did not wish to press the matter. Mgr. Montini did not seem very sanguine, and I was therefore rather surprised when I received, three days later, notification of the hour fixed.

2. I found the Pope in apparent good health and spirits, and he assured me that he was not at all tired (as I had told him I was) after his second consecutive summer in Rome. This must be due to the fact that he is Roman born and bred, and so inured to the climate. As always, he was most gracious, sympathetic and receptive to all I had to say to him. Having no particular subject for discussion, I began with a general review of the present war situation compared with the position a year ago, and drew his attention to Hitler's major misjudgments and failures during the past twelve months: the Battle of Britain last August, which was to have given him that air supremacy which was an essential prerequisite to invasion of Britain; then, when that failed, the equally abortive attempt to break the spirit of London and British morale by indiscriminate mass bombing in September; the very inadequate success, if not yet definite failure, of the Battle of the Atlantic, in which connexion I quoted the significant fact that British shipping losses in July and August had been only a little more than one-third of enemy losses during the same period; the fatal miscalculation in regard to the military strength and ability, the political vitality and the national spirit of Russia; and lastly, what was perhaps Hitler's greatest and most damning defeat, the utter failure of the New Order in Europe, the only effect of the attempted application of which was universal hatred and unrest and growing revolt against German domination. I said that I believed no other people would, in like circumstances, so clearly and comprehensively have convicted themselves of congenital unfitness for the rôle of the Master Race to which they aspired.

3. The Pope listened with apparent interest and acquiescence, but did not commit himself to any personal expression of opinion beyond agreement that the situation had fundamentally altered in the past year and in a manner which few would have believed possible twelve months ago. He expressed boundless admiration of the spirit of courage and endurance of the British people, which had so largely contributed to this change.

4. I satisfied myself that he fully understood our position in regard to Russia, namely, that we had allied ourselves with the latest victim of Hitlerian aggression, but that we maintained our dislike and rejection of ideological communism and all its manifestations. The Pope observed that the Prime Minister and yourself had made this quite clear. I said I thought there was reasonable ground for hoping that Hitler's Eastern adventure, apart from its consequences of greater or less disaster to Germany, might well result in the elimination, or at least the sterilisation, of bolshevism, and that Russia might offer a great field for a religious revival after the war. With this he agreed, and he did not once give expression to the traditional Vatican dread of communism.

5. I told him that I believed that it would be appreciated in London that he had declined by word or deed to endorse Hitler's claim to be leading a European crusade against communism. He confirmed my belief that he had in fact given no encouragement to the crusade theory, and seemed pleased that I should have remarked on this. He was aware that Nazi propaganda was nevertheless, though

with little success, trying to instil the belief that the Vatican was supporting the Russian war as a campaign against communism. An article to this effect has, I understand, appeared recently in the Spanish paper *Ya*, and been reproduced in the French *Croix*. However, such propaganda seems to have been on a very small scale and to have achieved little result. Anyway, the Germans themselves now seem to be dropping the crusade and substituting for it a philanthropic campaign for the endowment of the New Europe.

6. I referred to the recent courageous and outspoken pastorals of the German and Dutch bishops, and I was interested to find that the Pope also expressed great admiration of their courage. I had brought for him to read a book on Nazi Germany (*Germany, Jekyll and Hyde*, by Sebastian Haffner), but I warned him that it painted an appalling picture of the dynamic of nihilism that was the spirit of nazism and raised an equally appalling problem of the future exorcism of this spirit. The Pope intimated that he had little to learn about the meaning and menace of nazism, but he was clearly interested in the book.

7. I brought up the question of the recent expulsion of the Yugoslav Minister to the Holy See, and said that I thought the Vatican might have taken more vigorous action on his behalf and should have insisted on his being allowed to come to the Vatican City; I thought that His Holiness himself should have summoned the minister and, if necessary, sent a high Vatican official or the Nuncio to Italy to fetch him. The Pope listened, but offered no comment.

8. He spoke of his consuming desire to do all in his power to alleviate the distress of prisoners of war and their families, and thanked me for transmitting to you his hopes and requests in this respect.

9. He also reiterated his thanks for the British news with which I supply him, and again assured me that he read every word of my reports with the greatest interest, and that they were of great value to him in keeping him informed of the world situation.

10. He did not raise the question of the possible bombing of Rome, and neither did I.

11. He spoke most appreciatively of Mr. Myron Taylor, who had reached Rome the day before and was to see him in the evening, but he gave no indication of having any information regarding any specific purpose of the visit.

12. I think I have covered most of the main points of our conversation in the preceding paragraphs, though there was much else. While nothing of particular importance emerged, I think that my talk with His Holiness served a useful purpose. Moreover, it is apparent, from what Mr. Myron Taylor has since told me, that much of what we said to the Pope, and endeavoured to impress upon him, at our respective audiences, was on parallel lines, so that it may be hoped that our arguments were doubly convincing. In order to avoid embarrassing speculation regarding the coincidence of my reception on the same day that the Pope was receiving Mr. Myron Taylor, I agreed with the Secretariat of State and the Pope's Maestro di Camera that the fact of my audience should not be published in the *Osservatore Romano*.

I have, &c.
D. G. OSBORNE.

R 53

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

No. 83.
(63/1/41)

September 10th 1941.

R 8733
29 SEP 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that I had an audience with the Pope this morning, lasting for about three-quarters of an hour. I had recently suggested to Monsignor Montini, Assistant Under Secretary of State at the Secretariat of State, that I should like an audience, although admittedly I had nothing particular to communicate to His Holiness and so did not wish to press the matter. Monsignor Montini did not seem very sanguine and I was therefore rather surprised when I received three days later notification of the hour fixed.

2. I found the Pope in apparent good health and spirits and he assured me that he was not at all tired (as I had told him I was) after his second consecutive summer in Rome. This must be due to the fact that he is Roman born and bred, and so inured to the climate. As always, he was most gracious, sympathetic and receptive to all I had to say to him. Having no particular subject for discussion, I began with a general review of the present war situation compared with the position a year ago and drew his attention to Hitler's major misjudgments and failures during the past twelve months: the Battle of Britain last August, which was to have given him that air supremacy which was an essential prerequisite to invasion of Britain; then, when that failed, the equally abortive attempt to

break...

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

break the spirit of London and British morale by indiscriminate mass bombing in September; the very inadequate success, if not yet definite failure, of the Battle of the Atlantic, in which connection I quoted the significant fact that British shipping losses in July and August had been only a little more than one third of enemy losses during the same period; the fatal miscalculation in regard to the military strength and ability, the political vitality and the national spirit of Russia; and lastly, what was perhaps Hitler's greatest.and most damning defeat, the utter failure of the New Order in Europe, the only effect of the attempted application of which was universal hatred and unrest and growing revolt against German domination. I said that I believed no other people would, in like circumstances, so clearly and comprehensively have convicted themselves of congenital unfitness for the role of the Master Race to which they aspired.

3. The Pope listened with apparent interest and acquiescence, but did not commit himself to any personal expression of opinion beyond agreement that the situation had fundamentally altered in the past year and in a manner which few would have believed possible twelve months ago. He expressed boundless admiration of the spirit of courage and endurance of the British people, which had so largely contributed to this change.

4. I satisfied myself that he fully understood our position in regard to Russia, namely that we had allied ourselves with the latest victim of Hitlerian aggression, but that we maintained our dislike and rejection of ideological Communism and all its manifestations. The Pope observed that the Prime Minister and yourself had made this quite clear. I said I thought there was reasonable grounds for hoping that Hitler's Eastern adventure, apart from its consequences or greater or less disaster to Germany, might well result in the elimination, or at least

the...

the sterilisation of Bolshevism, and that Russia might offer a great field for a religious revival after the war. With this he agreed and he did not once give expression to the traditional Vatican dread of Communism.

5. I told him that I believed that it would be appreciated in London that he had declined by word or deed to endorse Hitler's claim to be leading a European crusade against Communism. He confirmed my belief that he had in fact given no encouragement to the crusade theory and seemed pleased that I should have remarked on this. He was aware that Nazi propaganda was nevertheless, though with little success, trying to instil the belief that the Vatican was supporting the Russian war as a campaign against Communism. An article to this effect has, I understand, appeared recently in the Spanish paper "Ya", and been reproduced in the French "La Croix". However, such propaganda seems to have been on a very small scale and to have achieved little result. Anyway, the Germans themselves now seem to be dropping the crusade and substituting for it a philanthropic campaign for the endowment of the New Europe.

6. I referred to the recent courageous and outspoken Pastorals of the German and Dutch Bishops and I was interested to find that the Pope also expressed great admiration of their courage. I had brought for him to read a book on Nazi Germany ("Germany, Jekyll and Hyde" by Sebastian Haffner) but I warned him that it painted an appalling picture of the dynamic of nihilism that was the spirit of Nazism and raised an equally appalling problem of the future exorcism of this spirit. The Pope intimated that he had little to learn about the meaning and menace of Nazism, but he was clearly interested in the book.

7. I brought up the question of the recent expulsion of the Yugoslav Minister to the Holy See and said that I thought the Vatican might have taken more vigorous action on his behalf and should have insisted on his being allowed to come to the Vatican City; I thought that His Holiness himself should

have...

have summoned the Minister and, if necessary, sent a high Vatican official or the Nuncio to Italy to fetch him. The Pope listened,but offered no comment.

8. He spoke of his consuming desire to do all in his power to alleviate the distress of Prisoners of War and their families and thanked me for transmitting to you his hopes and requests in this respect.

9. He also reiterated his thanks for the British news with which I supply him and again assured me that he read every word of my reports with the greatest interest, and that they were of great value to him in keeping him informed of the world situation.

10. He did not raise the question of the possible bombing of Rome and neither did I.

11. He spoke most appreciatively of Mr. Myron Taylor, who had reached Rome the day before and was to see him in the evening, but he gave no indication of having any information regarding any specific purpose of the visit.

12. I think I have covered most of the main points of our conversation in the preceding paragraphs, though there was much else. While nothing of particular importance emerged I think that my talk with His Holiness served a useful purpose. Moreover it is apparent from what Mr. Myron Taylor has since told me that much of what we said to the Pope, and endeavoured to impress upon him, at our respective audiences, was on parallel lines, so that it may be hoped that our arguments were doubly convincing. In order to avoid embarrassing speculation regarding the coincidence of my reception on the same day that the Pope was receiving Mr. Myron Taylor I agreed with the Secretariat of State and the Pope's Maestro di Camera that the fact of my audience should not be published in the "Osservatore Romano".

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
With the highest respect,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne.

67

1941

R

VATICAN

R 8928

7 OCT 1941

57

Registry Number } R 8928/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 2214

Dated 6th Oct. 1941.

Received in Registry } 7th Oct.1941

R : Vatican

Attitude of the Pope to the international situation.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 212 of 29th September. Is informed that the Pope has several times been urged to issue some statement in support of Hitlers "crusade" against communism, but has declined partly out of deference to British opinion.

Last Paper.

R 8733

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.) DC 22/10

(Index.) 25/11

Next Paper.

R 9428

(Minutes.)

But mainly no doubt because he sees through Hitler's hypocrisy.

W.K.Knight 8/10.

(M. 12/10.)

General Dept.

Mr Randall.

Asst R. 21/x

P. Dixon 8/10.

9/10

I trust Mr Knights view is the correct one, & I think it must be, since the Pope is not taken in by this Nazi nonsense about an anti-communist crusade.

Adulter 10/10

R.I.M. 21/x

21190 F.O.P.

R

58

R 8928

OCT 1941

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL No.2.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly,
No. 2214
6th October 1941

D. 4.46 p.m. 6th October 1941
R. 9.50 p.m. 6th October 1941

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.212 September 29th.

Confidential.

I am informed that the Pope has several times been urged to issue some statement in support of Hitler's "crusade" against Communism but has declined partly out of deference to British opinion. This should on no account be published.

[INDIV.]

OCT 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

5/68

R

VATICAN

1941

R 9428

28 OCT 1941

59

Registry Number R 9428/30/57

FROM Postal and Telegraph Censorship, *No.* Ministry of Information.

Dated 22nd Oct. 1941

Received in Registry 28th Oct. 1941

R : Vatican

The Pope's views on Communism.

Transmits extract from a letter dated 13th October from Mr. D.F.L. Brown, (Times correspondent) Lisbon, addressed to the Foreign News Editor, The Times, London.

Mr. Brown gives some explanation of the Pope's attitude to the war and says that in private episcopal audiences His Holiness has drawn an important distinction between the Nazi and Communist systems.

Last Paper.

R 8928

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Draft to Osborne, Holy See, from Howard NOV: 7.

(*Minutes.*)

It is interesting to hear that the Pope seems some good in Communism & likes it better than Nazi-ism. We might enquire of Mr Osborne what truth he considers there is in these statements.

RLmeade
30/x

Yes.

P.D.exin
30/10.

Draft here with. RLmeade
4/xi

S/11

(*Action completed.*) X 8/11

(*Index.*) 25/11

Next Paper.

R9516.

16757 3/38 F.O.P.

11476/T.211 500,000 5/41 S.T.P. 51-324 I.A. 21.10.41. 60

POSTAL & TELEGRAPH CENSORSHIP. SUBMISSION No. PO/82709/41

P.C.72

Terminal Mail Air ~~Surface~~

Letter from D.F.L.BROWN,
(TIMES CORRESPONDENT)
Address or postmark LISBON.

Date of letter or postmark Oct.13.1941.

To FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR,
THE TIMES,
LONDON.

R 9428
28 OCT 1941

Language ENGLISH.

Sorting Dept. DMA 23/10
W. Kenley
A.V. 22/10

ORIGINAL LETTER:

Submitted..... Photographed.....

Retained..... Released X

Returned to Sender.....

SUBMITTED TO:

Comment F.O.
INF.
EDITORIAL.
PRESS (2)

22 OCT 1941

Seen by: Naval Adviser..... Air Adviser..... M.I.12.....

SUBJECT **The Pope's views on Communism.**
(Include necessary references to Watch Lists, with Authority requiring the Watch)

The Lisbon correspondent of The Times gives some explanations of the Pope's attitude to the war and says that in private episcopal audiences His Holiness has drawn an important distinction between the Nazi and Communist systems.

"His public discourses have implied the obvious truth that the philosophy behind each is fundamentally anti-Christain, but he has repeatedly said in private that, whereas Nazism is almost entirely evil in its inspiration, Communism has in it certain elements of na tural good which, even if utterly perverted, still exist. Bolshevism is in some sense a corruption of the human virtues of brotherly love and self-sacrificem whereas Nazism is a direct and untrammelled manifestation of hatred and greed."

H.C.F.

Operating Unit	Section	Examiner	D.A.C.	Date
PO/PMS		1043	D.L.	19/10/41

R

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry R
No. 94261/30/57

RQW.
4/xi

Draft Reply.

Mr Osborne.

(from Mr Howard)

6 ~ 61

OUT FILE

Dear Osborne.

We hear from what we believe the a fairly reliable source that while the Pope's public utterances have implied the obvious truth that the philosophy behind the Nazi - Communist systems is fundamentally anti christian, in private he has drawn an important distinction between them.

It ~~was~~ seems that in private episcopal audiences His Holiness has repeatedly said that whereas Nazism is almost entirely evil in its inspiration, communism has in it certain elements of natural good which, even if utterly

PD.
4/11.

utterly perverted, still exist. Bolshevism is, in some sense, a corruption of the human virtues of brotherly love + self-sacrifice. whereas Nazism is a direct + untrammelled manifestation of hatred and greed.

We should be interested to learn whether you consider there is any truth in ~~those statements~~ attributing these statements to the Pope.

Yours ever

Ed. Preston Dixon.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

63

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
7th November, 1941.

(R 9428/30/57). OUT FILE

Dear Osborne.

We hear from what we believe to be a fairly reliable source that, while the Pope's public utterances have implied the obvious truth that the philosophy behind the Nazi and Communist systems is fundamentally anti-christian, in private he has drawn an important distinction between them.

It seems that in private episcopal audiences His Holiness has repeatedly said that whereas Nazism is almost entirely evil in its inspiration, Communism has in it certain elements of natural good which, even if utterly perverted, still exist. Bolshevism is, in some sense, a corruption of the human virtues of brotherly love and self-sacrifice, whereas Nazism is a direct and untrammelled manifestation of hatred and greed.

We should be interested to learn whether you consider there is any truth in attributing these statements to the Pope.

Yours ever
ad. Pierson Dixon.

F. D'A. G. Osborne, Esq., C.M.G.
Holy See.

69

R

1941

VATICAN

R 9516

1 NOV 1941

64

Registry Number } R 9516/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 91 (10/27/41)

Dated 9th Oct. 1941.

Received in Registry } 1st Nov. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Article in the "Giornale D'Italia" attacking President Roosevelt.

Reports that in the "Giornale d'Italia" of 8th October S. Gayda renewed his persistent attacks on President Roosevelt in an article in which he accuses him of endeavouring to mobilize the Pope and the Vatican against Italy and the Axis. Summarizes and comments on the article in question.

Last Paper.

R 9428

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

Not of great interest.

Unless Mr Osborne reports that the Vatican attaches importance to this article I don't think we need do so either.

RJ Meade 3/XI

P.D. 3/11.

N. American Dept. B Ward 5/11.

(Action completed.) DC 8/11

(Index.) JG : 25/11

Next Paper.

R 9535

16757 3/38 F.O.P.

65
R

With the compliments of

His Majesty's Minister to the

Holy See.

ROME.

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

October 9th 1941.

No. 91
(10/27/41)

R 9516
1 NOV 1941

Sir,

I have the honour to report that in the"Giornale d'Italia" of October 8th Gayda renewed his persistent attacks on President Roosevelt in an article in which he accuses him of endeavouring to mobilise the Pope and the Vatican against Italy and the Axis.

2. He declares that President Roosevelt, realising the growing opposition in the United States to his belligerent intentions, above all since the entry into the war of Soviet Russia, has endeavoured to repair the damage by a moral rehabilitation of Russia. The only result, according to Gayda, has been the stirring up of further spiritual revolt among Americans and the exasperation rather than the mitigation of opposition. Thus the President's latest gesture has proved a boomerang against its author and his insidious plans.

3. Gayda goes on to point out that the twenty million Catholics in the United States represent one of the strongest elements of opposition to Roosevelt's interventionism, and that since the participation of Soviet Russia in the conflict certain American Catholic circles have even stated that the question of fighting in a war in which the United States would be at the side of Soviet Russia would create a "case of conscience" for American combatants of the Catholic Faith. So Roosevelt attempted to create confusion in the camp of his opponents, above all of his Catholic opponents. But his gesture was only part of an insidious manoeuvre in which the anti-Catholic President is engaged...

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

gaged for the purpose of involving or compromising the Vatican and the Pope in the belligerent designs of the Anglo-Saxons. The manoeuvre was concerted between London and Washington and has revealed itself in several speeches on behalf of Soviet Russia by the religious chiefs of Great Britain, such as the Archbishop of Canterbury.

4. President Roosevelt is now at work to create the fiction of an orientation of the Church of Rome towards the policy of the Anglo-Saxon Powers and against the Powers of the Axis. His propaganda is subtly diffusing the suggestion that the Pope has displayed "comprehension" for the collaboration of the United States, Great Britain and Soviet Russia and that His Holiness had "appreciated" certain assurances conveyed to him by Mr. Myron Taylor regarding an American intervention at Moscow on behalf of the guarantee of full religious liberty by the Soviet Government. Mr. Taylor, Gayda continues, unexpectedly visited London on his way home and it was subsequently learned that this visit had for its purpose the elaboration of a new manoeuvre which would prove the existence of a "worldwide plan of action by the Catholic Church", such plan having as its major premise "an alignment of the Vatican at the side of the Anglo-Saxon democracies" and as a minor premise "the breaking down of Italian morale". (These quotations are Gayda's but he does not reveal their origin.) He then refers to the renewal of the corrosive propaganda offensive of the Anglo-Saxon countries against Italy and states that this latest manoeuvre, which endeavours without the slightest justification to bring into cause the serenity of the Vatican and the supreme spiritual person of the Pontiff, belongs to this plan of propaganda. It endeavours

to...

to create confusion in the Catholic conscience of the world by associating this conscience with everything that there is of anti-Catholic in the Anglo-Saxon association of war. But it is unnecessary to add that Roosevelt's scheme will fail.

5. I have not yet had an opportunity of ascertaining whether the Vatican attach any importance to this article.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. J. Dorru

70

1941

R

VATICAN

69

R 9535

1 NOV 1941

Registry Number R 9535/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly Berne

No. 2433

Dated 31st Oct, 1941

Received in Registry 1st Nov, 1941

R: Vatican

The Shooting of French hostages: Vatican attitude.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 230 of 28th October. Has asked Cardinal Secretary of State whether the Pope was contemplating protest or other action in connexion with the shooting of French hostages. The Cardinal expressed his deep distress, but did not reply directly to His Majesty's Minister's enquiry. This evidently means that the Pope will do nothing.

Last Paper.

R 9516

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

A pity, but nevertheless another argument against protesting as a result of any action on our part eg. Bombing of Rome.

R Meade 3/xi

M.I.A.S. 3/xi

Central Dept.

~~Register~~ 12/11.

His Holiness may generally be relied on to say nothing however distressing the circumstances.

P. Dixon 3/11.

J. Howard. 3/11

Sir A. Cadogan

Mr Eden

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 13/11.	55/11

Next Paper.

R 9592.

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

70

R 9535

1 NOV 1941

[CYPHER]

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION.

FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 2455.
31st October, 1941.

D. 1.51 p.m. 31st October, 1941.
R. 5.25 p.m. 31st October, 1941.

XXXXX

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 230 October 28th.

[Begins].

I asked Cardinal Secretary of State whether the Pope was contemplating protest or other action in connexion with the shooting of French hostages. The Cardinal expressed his deep distress but did not reply directly to my enquiry. This evidently means that the Pope will do nothing.

INDIV.

NOV 1941
F.O. REGISTRY.

71

R

1941

VATICAN

R 9592

14 NOV 1941

71

Registry Number } R 9592/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, (Holy See) to

No. Mr. Howard.

Dated 14th Oct. 1941.

Received in Registry 4th Nov. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Alleged statement by the Pope to the Roumanian Minister to the Vatican.

Refers to Mr. Howard's letter of 15th September (R 8486/30/57), and states that it is quite untrue that the Pope, on the occasion of the reception of the new Roumanian Minister, "congratulated the Roumanian people on the wisdom of their government and fine conduct". Encloses a copy of the Pope's speech in reply to the Minister. Considers that in general it can be taken that about 75% of the statements or activities of a political nature attributed to the Pope by press or rumour derive from the lively imagination of journalists or are deliberate propagandist inventions.

Last Paper.

R 9535

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

1) to Tower, P.I.D. from Mr Randall NOV. 10.

~~2) to Tower, P.I.D.~~

~~Dec.~~

Dft. to Tower. (P.I.D.) Feb 28

(*Minutes.*)

Refer to Mr Tower

MR 6/11

Mr Tower claims never to have received the document in question.

fo X.

See within letter from Mr Tower, P.I.D to Mr Rose of 3/6/42

MR 2/6

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
2/6/42	23/2/42

Next Paper.

R 9611

16757 3/38 F.O.P.

72

R 9592
1 NOV 194

BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.
VATICAN CITY

October 14th 1941.

Dear Howard,

In reply to your letter (R 8486/30/57) of September 15th, it is quite untrue, as you surmise, that the Pope, on the occasion of his reception of the new Roumanian Minister, "congratulated the Roumanian people on the wisdom of their Government and fine conduct". I enclose a copy of the Pope's speech in reply to the Minister. The words "heureux succés" are the only possible ones that might conceivably be quoted as a congratulation to the Roumanian people, but you will see that, read in their context, they are quite innocuous.

In general, I think it can be taken that about 75% of the statements or activities of a political nature attributed to the Pope or the Vatican by press or rumour derive from the lively imagination of journalists...

D.F. Howard Esq., M.C.,
Southern Department,
FOREIGN OFFICE.

BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.
20, VIA QUATTRO FONTANE - ROME (5)

ists or are deliberate propagandist inventions. The Pope's consuming anxiety is to avoid committing himself politically. This is not only the traditional Vatican policy, but is enjoined by Article 24 of the Lateran Treaty in which the Holy See declares that it will hold itself aloof from temporal disputes between States ("rimarrà estranea alle competizioni temporali fra gli altri Stati"). This attitude also conforms to the Pope's temperamental caution and apprehensiveness. It is no doubt in accordance with this policy that he refuses to endorse Hitler's "crusade" against Bolshevism.

Yours ever,

D. G. Osborne

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN

R 9592/30/57.

105 / 10

Mr Tower.
P.I.D.

for
Mr Randall.

Mr Randall
first.

8
74

nov. 8th 1941

Dear Tower, In reply to your minute of 13th Sept. about the Pope's reception of the Roumanian minister to the Holy See. I write to let you know that we have now heard from Ottawa. It appears that the report in "La Croix"

"LA CROIX" un petit folio.
Je donne la vie à la
publication dont je suis
Marcel Andrieux
enclos. ~~I would~~
will you please
~~telegraph if you will~~
return it when you have
read it?

WR 7/11

Yours ever
Sd. A.W.G. Randall.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS SPACE

75

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OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.
10th November, 1941.

(R 9592/30/57)

My dear Tower -

In reply to your minute of the 13th September about the Pope's reception of the new Roumanian Minister to the Holy See, I write to let you know that we have now heard from Osborne. It appears that the report in "La Croix" was quite false. Osborne has sent us the published record of the audience, which I enclose. Will you please return it when you have read it ?

Yours ever

R. A.W.G. Randall

C. Tower, Esq.,
Political Intelligence Department.

R 9592/30/37

OUT FILE

Feb. 28th 1941

26
TT

Mr Tyler
P. I. D.

Mr Randall.

My dear Power

I should be very grateful if you could let us have back some time the record of the audience between the Pope and the new Roumanian minister

NOTHING TO BE WRIT

Visits to the Holy
See, which I sent
you in my letter
of 10th November.
R95 92/30/54.

MK 27

Yours
Sgd. Alwyn Ranasinghe

NOTHING TO BE WRIT

OUT FILE

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FOREIGN OFFICE,
S. W. 1.

(R 9592/30/37). 28th February, 1942.

My dear Tower,

We should be very grateful if you could let us have back some time the record of the audience between the Pope and the new Roumanian Minister to the Holy See, which I sent you in my letter (R 9592/30/37) of the 10th November.

Yours.
Sgd A W G Randall

C. Tower, Esq.,
Political Intelligence
Department.

80

Put with M-

Political Intelligence Department,
Centre Block, Bush House,
Aldwych, W.C.2.
3rd June, 1942.

TEMPLE BAR 1581.

R9592/30/57
INDEXED
9 JUN 1942

Dear Mr. Rose,

I was in London when you enquired by telephone about the text of the interview between the Pope and the Roumanian Minister to the Vatican. I thought that I had already told Mr. Randall that this paper, which was originally sent to me, was sent on to the Roumanian section by whom it was probably thrown out and destroyed instead of being returned to me. Certainly it did not come back to me because otherwise it would be on my files with my original enquiry on the point. I first asked about the matter because of an alleged quotation from the interview in a French Catholic paper, but eventually it proved that the matter did not concern France at all, but did concern Roumania to which section accordingly it would have been transferred. I was on sick leave for some three weeks when Mr. Randall raised the matter. My secretary hunted through my files and I think informed Mr. Randall at the time that I had not got it.

You probably know that we have no permanent archives of our own and if papers are not marked to be kept by the section whom they concern, they are automatically destroyed as soon as they are put into the out tray, and from such enquiries as I am able to make, I am fairly sure that this is what has happened.

I am sorry for the inconvenience and I am also sorry that you should have had so much trouble in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Charles Tower

E.M. Rose, Esq.,
Southern Department.

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R

1941

VATICAN

R 9611

4 NOV 1941

81

Registry Number } R 9611/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 2451

Dated 3rd Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry } 4th Nov. 1941

R : Vatican

The shooting of French hostages : Vatican attitude.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 232 of 31st October. Refers to Holy See telegram No. 230 (R 9535/30/57). Has again referred to this question in a subsequent conversation with the Under-Secretary of State, who said that the Nuncio at Berlin has on various occasions been directed to intervene in the Pope's name in favour of persons condemned to death by the German authorities and has recently been instructed to do anything possible to save the lives of the 92 hostages condemned to death.

Last Paper.

R 9592

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This is better than nothing, but oh. so timid.

8/11.
Foreign Office
Confd M.I.A.5. 11/xi

Rumbold
5/xi

P. Dixon
6/11.

6/11

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
JC 12/11	JF 25/11

Next Paper.

R 9405

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

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R

R 9611

4 NOV 1941

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION.

FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly.
No. 2451.

3rd November, 1941.

D. 8.44 p.m. 3rd November, 1941.
R.12.55 a.m. 4th November, 1941.

zzzzzzz

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 252 October 31st.

1. My telegram No. 250. R 9575/20/57

2. I referred to this question in a subsequent conversation with the Under Secretary of State and said that there was much speculation as to whether the Pope had done anything. He said he would enquire and let me know.

3. He has since informed me that the Nuncio at Berlin has on various occasions been directed to intervene in the Pope's name in favour of persons condemned to death by the German authorities and has recently been instructed to do anything possible to save the lives of the 92 hostages condemned to death.

4. This intervention should not be made public since it is not yet known whether and how the Nuncio has carried out his instructions.

INDIV.

NOV 1941
F.O. REGISTRY

73.

R

1941

VATICAN

R 9705

9 NOV 1941

83

Registry Number R 9705/30/57

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly,

No. Berne 2485

Dated 7th Nov, 1941

Received in Registry 9th Nov, 1941

R: Vatican

The Shooting of French hostages: Vatican attitude.

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 233 of 1st November.

Refers to Holy See telegram No. 232 (R 9611/30/57).

Has been informed by Cardinal Secretary of State that the Nuncio had made his appeal and had been told that further executions of French hostages had been indefinitely postponed.

Last Paper.

R9611.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Good. But make thanks to the Pope.

P Meade 9/xi

P.D Dixon 10/11.

French Dept.

10/11

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
De 7/.	25/11

Next Paper.

R9936.

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

[Cypher] POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION.

FROM: SWITZERLAND.

R

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kelly. D. 7.03 p.m. 7th November, 1941.
No. 2485. R. 1.15 a.m. 8th November, 1941.

R 9705

9 NOV 1941

7th November, 1941.

uuuuuu

Following from Osborne telegram No. 233 November 1st. [Begins].

My immediately preceding telegram. Berne 245 FG 611/30/57

Cardinal Secretary of State told me to-day that Nuncio had made his appeal and had been told that further executions of French hostages had been indefinitely postponed.

(IND IV)

NOV

F.O. REGISTRY

74

85

R

1941

VATICAN

R 9936

19 NOV 1941

Registry Number } R 9936/30/57

FROM Mr. Frank Savery to Mr. Roberts.

No.

Dated 16th Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry } 19th Nov. 1941

R : Vatican

Attitude of the Vatican to the war.

Tran smits report received from the Polish Embassy to the Holy See, dated from the end of October. The report states that the Holy See is convinced that the end of the Stalin type of communism is approaching and it is in consequence beginning to see more clearly that the greatest danger to the church is in Nazi Germany. At the same time the Holy See fears an effective occupation of Italy by the Germans and is trying to influence Italiens with a view to preventing this occupation. The report also states that Axis pressure on the Holy See is increasing, and this is plainlyfelt in all questions concerning Poland.

Last Paper.

R 9705

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Nothing of great interest here.
If the Pope sees the nazi menace to Catholicism more clearly he should be all the more prepared to counter increased ~~axis~~ german pressure.

NMC. 23.11
Northern Dept.

AG. 20/11

RHumbles 19/xi

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
(1) DE 24/11	8m 20/11

Next Paper.

R 10104

18560 2/39 F.O.P

Eastern 86

54, Egerton Crescent,
S.W.3,
November 16, 1941.

Dear Roberts,

The Polish M.F.A. have asked me to pass on the following information received from their Embassy to the Holy See and dating from the very end of October:-

The Holy See is convinced that the end of the Stalin type of communism is approaching and it is in consequence beginning to see more clearly that the greatest danger to the Church lies in Nazi Germany. This is to be seen in numerous articles of the "Osservatore Romano". At the same time the Holy See fears an effective occupation of Italy by the Germans and is trying to influence Italians with a view to preventing thos occupation.

The Axis pressure on the Holy See is increasing. Agents of the Axis are infiltrating everywhere to neutralize anti-German and anti-Italian influences. Although the policy of the Holy See towards Poland has not changed, the Axis pressure is plainly felt in all questions concerning Poland.

Yours ever,

Frank Savery

F.K.Roberts, Esq:,
Foreig Office.

R 9936
19 NOV

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Piece .....30175.....

Following document(s)*

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transferred to PRO Safe Room*

R 10104/30/57

and closed until.....1992

*delete as necessary

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R

1941

VATICAN

R10216

Registry Number R 10216/30/57.

FROM Mr. Frank Savery, Communicated.

No.

Dated 22nd Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry 1st Dec. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Attitude of the Holy See towards the War.

Transmits note received from M. Wszelaki of the Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs enclosing a memorandum on the attitude of the Holy See towards the war. The memorandum consists of extracts from a report by Ambassador Papée. He suggests sending to South America an outstanding British Catholic dignitary to counterbalance the one-sided influence of Axis propaganda.

Last Paper.

R 10104

References.

R 9204/44/57

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(Action completed.) DC 5/12

(Index.) JHS 20/12

Next Paper.

R 10496.

(*Minutes.*)

This summary is not of special interest. It stresses "fear" - fear of "physical" danger & the point that the Pope does not wish to see Italy defeated.

As regards sending a British catholic dignitary to South America I doubt if this would serve any useful purpose.

M. de Causelaert, a prominent Belgian catholic undertook a tour of South America but except for a somewhat unsatisfactory report from Montevideo (R 9204) our other missions have not reported on his visit.

R. Meade 8/xii

Nothing very new. I think it can go by.

JHS 4/12

88

RÉPUBLIQUE DE POLOGNE

MINISTÈRE
DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

JW/NCG.

70, Queen's Gate,
S. W. 7

22nd November, 1941.

R10216
1 DEC 1941

I think a bad idea Sir Alomes agrees JW

You will find enclosed a few synthetic remarks on the attitude of the Holy See towards the war. They are extractions from a report by Ambassador Papée, and I think they contain points of general interest. Papee puts forward the interesting suggestion of sending to South America an outstanding British Catholic dignitary to counterbalance the one-sided influence of Axis propaganda. There are numbers of dignitaries in this country from amongst whom it would not be difficult to select a prelate, speaking Spanish if possible, who could carry out this important task successfully.

Wszelaki

Frank Savery Esq.,
54, Egerton Crescent,
S. W.

ENCLOSURE

Attitude of the Holy See towards the War

1. In giving the attitude of the Holy See towards the two warring camps two main trends of thought must be taken into account.

2. The Pope and Mgr: MONTINI concentrate their attention on the mission of the Catholic church as teacher of faith and morality, consequently statements on morality in politics can be obtained from them, although scrupulousness, lack of decision and a desire to preserve the organization of the Church with the possibility of acting through this organization certainly hamper their willingness to give expression to their views.

3. The second group, which includes Cardinal MAGLIONE and Mgr: TARDINI, devote themselves chiefly to preserving organization and possibilities of action. This group is much more reluctant to commit the Church to any statements as they fear that such statements might expose the Church to "physical " danger.

It should be stressed that this group falls an easy prey to political pressure /mostly Italian/ and that therefore such pressure ought to be brought to bear by the Allies.

4. Besides these two groups there are high ecclesiastical dignitaries who represent the interests of particular national branches of the Church, e.g. GILLET, the General of the Dominican Friars, represents the opportunist French clergy, Mgr. KAAS, former President of the German "Zentrum", the anti-Nazi German clergy.

While endeavouring to put forward the interests of their native countries - Mgr. KAAS in particular should be mentioned here - these dignitaries must, however, bear the interests of their Church in mind and generally come under the influence of one or other of the main trends of thought.

5. In the present war the two main trends are in favour of non-intervention. In practice this attitude leads to a political isolation of the Holy See.

6. In the opinion of the Holy See neither of the two warring camps represents the truth of which the Catholic Church considers itself to be the only depository. The Holy See agrees that there are many points of solidarity between the Catholic Church and Great Britain plus the United States, but it is hostile to Bolshevism.

On the other hand the Holy See considers that despite conflicts and misunderstandings the Church could co-exist with Italian Fascism, but it is hostile to ~~Fascism~~ Nazism.

The Holy See would like to see the destruction of both Bolshevism and Nazism. It should be stressed, however, that in the opinion of the Holy See the destruction of Nazism should not entail a defeat of Italy.

It is interesting to note that the fear of endangering the Church physically" prevented the Holy See from pronouncing itself both against Bolshevism and Nazism when on June 22nd the struggle began between these two main enemies of religion.

7. Despite the general trend towards non-

intervention and isolationism a fear is noticed in the Holy See that this attitude might be interpreted as a renunciation of the right to give a pronouncement on the matter of morality in international politics. It seems that it would be useful to reckon with this fear.

If any suggestions could be made in connection with this short summary on the attitude of the Holy See towards the war, it seems that an endeavour ought to be made on the part of the Allies to gain the sympathy and support of Catholic ecclesiastical quarters everywhere in the world where they are directly accessible, eag. in South America. Visits by dignitaries of the Catholic Church of the Allied countries should be discussed and, if possible, carried out.

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R

92

R10496

1941

VATICAN

Registry Number R 10496/30/57.

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 107 (66/4/41).

Dated 13th Nov. 1941.

Received in Registry 11th Dec. 1941.

R: Vatican.

Vatican Political Review for 1940.

Refers to Foreign Office despatch No. 24 of 26th September (L 2344/447/405).
Transmits the Political Review for 1940.

Last Paper.

R 10216

References.

R 428/276/22
1940

(Print.) **PRINTED**

Southern Italy D 3/1/42.

(How disposed of.)

D (H) for Osborne
Holy See
No. 31
Dec. 17

(Minutes.)

1944 librarian paper with HE Codrington-

Print Southern Italy D.

Draft Thanking attached.

Library first. S.G. 16. xii. 41.

Resubmit for circulation.

R Q Meade
12/xii

The report is on the long side.

Central (with pl.) Dept paras 9 to 11, 26 to 29, 31, 32, 34 13/12

P/W Dept para 13

French (Mil) Dept. paras 29. 30

N. American Dept. para. 33

Treaty Dept. paras 35-41.

Communications Dept. paras 44. 45

R Q Meade
14i

× R Q M. ×
26/i

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
JC 27/1	24/1/42

Next Paper.

R 10761.

18560 2/39 F.O.P

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93
D

(16117) ARCHIVES

[R 10496/30/57] Copy No. 8

Mr. Osborne to Mr. Eden.—(*Received December* 11.)

(No. 107. Confidential.) *British Legation to the Holy See,*
Sir, *Vatican City, November* 13, 1941.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Political Review for 1940, as requested in your despatch No. 24 of the 26th September. I am not sure just what is required, as my copy of the circular of the 4th November, 1939, was destroyed with my archives before I came into the Vatican City and I was unable to obtain a copy from His Majesty's Legation at Berne, who had also destroyed theirs. I had no archives prior to the middle of June, and certain confidential papers in my Vatican files I thought it better to destroy too. My material was thus limited and my memory is unreliable. I hope, therefore, that my report is more or less what is required. I should be grateful if I might be sent a copy of the circular, or, better, if its substance could be briefly telegraphed to me, for my guidance in preparing the report for 1941.

I have, &c.
D. G. OSBORNE.

Enclosure.

Political Review of the Year 1940.

AT the end of 1939 the prestige of the new Pope had reached a high point. In his Encyclical *Summi Pontificatus* he had profoundly and eloquently diagnosed the ills of the world, which had culminated in the war. In his Christmas address to the cardinals he had enunciated his Five Conditions of Peace. He had exchanged formal visits of state with the Italian Sovereigns, and it was hoped that the friendly relations thus established might operate to save Italy from participation in the war. But both Quirinal and Vatican were helpless in the face of Mussolini's ambitions and his misjudgment of the war situation in June 1940.

With Italy's entry into the war the whole position radically altered and from this moment the moral prestige of the Papacy began to decline. The physical and political situation of the Vatican City State, as a neutral enclave in a belligerent country, was a delicate one, and the progressive growth of German influence at Rome made it still more difficult. Axis methods of blackmail were used to good effect. The voice of the Vatican, which, under Pius XI, had fearlessly pronounced the moral verdict of Christian civilisation alike against Bolshevik atheism and Nazi statolatry and their common oppression of religion, was discreetly lowered, though not stilled, and its words and sentiments still more discreetly adjusted to the exigencies of an anxious neutrality. The Pope, sensitive and impressionable by temperament and naturally inclined to caution and compromise, bowed to what he conceived to be both duty and necessity and entered on the path followed by Benedict XV in the last war. But it is fair to say that he has another reason for preserving an unimpeachable neutrality, and that is that he aspires to play a rôle in the restoration of peace. He does not realise that the abnegation of moral leadership in the interests of a strict neutrality is likely to hinder rather than to advance that ambition.

Throughout the year, in a number of public or published utterances, he prayed for peace and deplored the horrors of war. At a Papal Mass in St. Peter's on the 3rd March he delivered a sermon before a large crowd and ended with a moving prayer for a Christian peace. His formula for a just, lasting and therefore Christian peace is that it must be based upon justice interpreted in a spirit of charity (Peace = $\frac{\text{Justice}}{\text{Charity}}$ would be the mathematical formula).

At the Papal Mass on Easter Sunday he delivered another sermon, deploring the ruin of war and the violation of international law :—

> "Often we see the very law governing the relations between civilised peoples violated : open cities and villages of peasants are terrorised, burnt and devastated by bombardment; unarmed citizens, even the sick and the old and innocent children, are deprived of their homes and often killed."

In a long address to the College of Cardinals on the 2nd June he referred to his own unceasing efforts on behalf of peace, spoke of the progressive weakening of the rule of law and its substitution by the rule of force, which vitiates and suffocates all ethical and juridical impulses, declared that the treatment of non-combatants in more than one region was far from conforming to the laws of humanity, and insisted that justice and equity demanded that the population of occupied countries should be treated by the occupying Power as it would desire to see its own nationals treated.

At a public audience on the 10th July he condemned the tendency of natural patriotic instincts to degenerate into a passion for revenge. (The deliberate inculcation of a spirit of hatred and revenge is, of course, the deliberate and admitted policy of the totalitarian States.) At another public audience on the 7th August he denounced the printed lie (referring to the press) and the deliberate destruction of brotherly relations : "This work of hatred is accomplished sometimes with books, but more often through the press." He concluded his address with the assertion that "the written lie may become no less deadly than the armoured car or the bombing plane."

In receiving the credentials of the new Roumanian Minister on the 15th November, the Pope spoke of three fundamental principles : respect for religion, the faithful observance of contractual engagements and defence of peace.

He ordered special masses and prayers throughout the world on the 24th November for the souls of victims of the war, for the comfort of refugees, prisoners of war and other sufferers, and for the restoration of order and justice. The Papal Mass in St. Peter's on that day was marked as an occasion of mourning and intercession by the fact that the Papal Court, the cardinals, the Vatican officials and the Diplomatic Corps did not wear full-dress uniform and the Pope himself entered the Basilica on foot. The *Osservatore Romano* hailed one passage in his sermon as a synthesis of the Five Conditions of Peace of the preceding Christmas :—

> ". . . . that there be set up an order of things juster and more harmonious, based on that justice which soothes passions, allays hatreds, quenches rancour and bickerings; an order that would tend to give to every people in tranquillity, in liberty and in security that portion which belongs to each of the earthly sources of prosperity and power. . . . ."

His Majesty's Minister had suggested that the Pope should say something in his address in condemnation of the admitted German policy of the destruction of cities and the consequent massacre of civilians; the result of this suggestion was the reference to—

> "Whirlwinds that in the light of day, or in the dark of the night, scatter terror, fire, destruction and slaughter on helpless folk."

In a *Motu Proprio* of the 1st December the Pope expressed the hope that on Christmas Eve and Day "there may prevail, either spontaneously or by mutual agreement between all belligerents, a truce. . . . ." At the same time, His Holiness addressed a special appeal in this sense to the British and German Governments. While the Germans did not answer, His Majesty's Government replied that the suggestion was unfortunately impracticable.

Lastly, in his address to the cardinals at the end of the year, the Pope laid down Five Prerequisites of Peace, which should be read in connexion with his Five Peace Conditions of the previous Christmas. These were:—

(1) Triumph over hate, and systems and practices feeding hate.
(2) Triumph over mistrust, destructive of international law and treaties.
(3) Triumph over interest as the basis and criterion of right; embodied in the principle that might makes right, rendering precarious all international relations, especially for small nations.
(4) Progressive adjustment of economic inequalities.
(5) Triumph over cold-blooded egoism, emboldened by strength, which ends by violating, not only the honour and sovereignty of States, but also the wholesome ordered liberty of men; and a declaration of principle in favour of the recognition of indisputable rights.

In the course of his address the Pope again implicitly condemned indiscriminate bombing when he observed that the conflict piled up ruins and did not spare venerable shrines, famous monuments or charitable institutions, and that it was oblivious of the laws of humanity and careless of the usages and conventions of war. He also referred to his efforts to help prisoners of war and interned civilians, and, presumably referring to his difficulties with the German authorities with regard to Poland, declared that these efforts had been frustrated in some countries. In thus condemning the violation of international law, the disregard of the laws of humanity and of the rules of war, the destruction of cities and monuments, the massacre of innocent people, the ill-treatment of non-combatants, lack of respect for religion, cold-blooded egoism and the principle that might makes right, the Pope implicitly condemned Nazi methods. It should be recorded that on the 10th May, when Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg were invaded by Germany, the Pope addressed to the Sovereigns of those countries a telegram expressing his distress and particular paternal interest; and that at the end of September he instructed the Apostolic Delegate in London to convey to their Majesties The King and Queen his congratulations on their escape on the occasion of the bombing of Buckingham Palace.

On the 6th December the *Osservatore Romano* published a decree of the Holy Office, dated the 27th November, 1940, to the following effect:—

> "This Supreme Congregation has been asked: 'Whether it is permissible, by order of the public authority, directly to kill those who, although they have committed no crime worthy of death, nevertheless, on account of mental or physical defects, can be of no use to the nation, but are rather considered to be a burden to the same, and a hindrance to its vigour and strength.'
>
> "*Reply:* 'In the *negative*; since it is contrary to the natural, and to the divine positive law.'"

While resolved to spare no effort that might contribute to the re-establishment of peace, the Pope fully realised that a premature initiative would be fatal to his hopes. At the end of June he informed His Majesty's Minister that he had been making indirect soundings in London, Berlin and Rome as to the possible prospects of a compromise peace. (The hope of this was widely entertained in Vatican circles after the French collapse.) A suggestion on these lines uttered by the Nuncio at Berne and reported to London by His Majesty's Legation elicited a reply to the effect that it would be an illusion to think that His Majesty's Government might be prepared to negotiate with either Hitler or Mussolini; neither they nor the Dominions were deterred by the French collapse from their determination to carry on the war against Germany and Italy. Meanwhile, the Apostolic Delegate in London, on instructions from Rome, addressed the following letter to the Secretary of State:—

> "Dear Lord Halifax,
>
> "The Holy Father, deeply distressed at the prospect of the endless grief and irreparable loss which the imminent accentuation of hostilities will cause, has in mind, of his own initiative, to approach the Governments of Germany, England and Italy, appealing to them to make an effort by common agreement to bring this conflict to an end.

"The sole motive for such a step on the part of the Pope is to make a supreme effort for the salvation of humanity and civilisation; confident as he is that the people desire a just and honourable peace and that the prolongation of the war may easily give rise to further conflicts and crises.

"Before taking such a step, however, His Holiness has asked me to make confidential enquiry regarding the attitude of His Majesty's Government to any such appeal.

"With the expression of my high regard,

"I am, &c.

"WILLIAM GODFREY, *Apostolic Delegate.*"

In reply, he was handed the following aide-mémoire by the Secretary of State, and was told that it was hoped that he would leave the Pope in no doubt at all of our determination not to acquiesce in Hitler's programme for making himself master of Europe:—

"His Majesty's Government fully appreciate the lofty motives which have impelled His Holiness to take this step.

"Their position has repeatedly been made plain. They only came into the war in pursuance of a pledge to support a friendly country in defence of its independence.

"So far as Italy is concerned, they had no quarrel with that country. The Italian Government, without reason given, declared war on Great Britain.

"His Majesty's Government cannot desert the cause of Allies whose independence has been temporarily destroyed.

"They have no wish to destroy Germany, but are determined not to see Europe and themselves under Nazi domination, and will be prepared to fight to the end against it."

On the occasion of Hitler's peace "offer" in July, and the Secretary of State's speech in reply, both the Pope and Cardinal Secretary of State expressed their regret that Lord Halifax had not more clearly invited Hitler to state his peace conditions and proposals. An expression of this regret was conveyed to His Majesty's Government through the Apostolic Delegate in London. It was made clear that the Vatican's intention was only to urge His Majesty's Government not lightheartedly to accept responsibility for the continuance of the war; it was thought that we should have gone farther to avoid any possible onus of responsibility if we had invited Hitler to express himself more clearly.

In August the Pope informed His Majesty's Minister that, in spite of press reports to the contrary, he was not engaging in any soundings or conversations, since he realised that, in view of the reply given to the Apostolic Delegate in London on the 2nd July, the present prospects of any initiative were not favourable.

There is no doubt that the Pope suffers deeply and continuously under the tragedy of the war. Having been unable to avert war, and being unable to promote peace, he seeks such slight consolation as it offers in unremitting endeavour to do all that is in his power to alleviate the sufferings of refugees, prisoners of war and interned civilians. For this purpose he ordered the Secretariat of State to set up in the Vatican City a special Information Bureau to deal with enquiries regarding prisoners of war. He also contributed liberally to Polish and other relief funds.

Condemned by circumstances and his conception of his duty to temporary eclipse in the rôle of Sovereign Pontiff, he seems to have sought comfort and compensation in the lesser part of Bishop of Rome. He spent the summer in Rome instead of going to his summer villa at Castel Gandolfo, in order, according to the *Osservatore Romano*, to assure to the Roman population the continued comfort of his presence.

In the first months after Italy's entry into the war he exerted all his influence to ensure that Rome, on account of its sacred character and tradition, should be spared aerial bombardment. The argument that it was also the capital of a belligerent State seemed to be regarded by the Vatican as a subordinate factor in the situation, as though Fascist Italy were a mere transitory episode in the history of Rome. On the Italian declaration of war the Pope first requested the British and French Governments to abstain from any military operations against

Rome out of respect for its sacred character. The French Government replied that they would abstain from aerial bombardment of the city out of regard for the Holy See. His Majesty's Government's reply was that they had no intention in any circumstances of attacking the Vatican City, but that their action in regard to the rest of Rome must necessarily depend upon the extent to which the Italian Government observed the rules of war. On the 15th June the Apostolic Delegate delivered a message from the Cardinal regarding the alleged dropping of leaflets on the Vatican City. He was told that, as he had already been informed, it was His Majesty's Government's intention to respect the neutrality of the Vatican City; no British aircraft had dropped leaflets on Italian territory, but, should it ever be decided to do so at Rome, it would be impossible to ensure against some of them falling in error on Vatican territory.

In October Mussolini announced that he had obtained Hitler's permission to send Italian aircraft to co-operate in the "retaliatory" bombing of England. His Majesty's Minister thereupon requested the Cardinal Secretary of State to inform the Pope that, in his opinion, this must necessarily affect the results of His Holiness's plea on behalf of Rome. The result was that soon after the Minister was requested to renew the Pope's plea. His Majesty's Minister undertook to forward His Holiness's message to London, but said that he was unable to see that the citizens of Rome had any better right to be spared indiscriminate bombing than the citizens of London and other British cities. At the beginning of November, after Italy's invasion of Greece on the 28th October, His Majesty's Minister was informed by the Under-Secretary of State at the Vatican of a telegram received from the Archbishops of the Latin and Greek rites in Athens begging the Pope to use his good offices with the Italian authorities to ensure that Athens, "like Rome," should be spared aerial bombardment, as being the two sources of civilisation; the Under-Secretary added that the Pope was approaching the Italian authorities and wished to renew his appeal to His Majesty's Government in respect of Rome.

The Italian press meanwhile boasted of the participation of Italian aircraft in the bombing of London, and on the 7th November Mr. Butler stated in the House of Commons that—

> "His Majesty's Government have taken note of the Italian statement that Italian airmen and aircraft have taken part in the bombing of London, and they reserve full liberty of action in regard to Rome."

It was about this time the report came into circulation that, in the event of British bombardment of Rome, a specially prepared squadron of Italian or German bombers would bomb the Vatican City, probably with British bombs, in order to discredit His Majesty's Government in the eyes of Catholic world opinion. His Majesty's Minister was instructed to inform the Vatican that a report to this effect had reached London.

At the end of November His Majesty's Minister informed the Vatican, on the instructions of His Majesty's Government, that, besides the representations to himself, the Pope had exerted pressure on His Majesty's Government through other channels to avert the bombing of Rome. The communication continued that His Majesty's Government reserved full liberty of action in regard to Rome, and they deprecated these attempts by the Vatican to organise pressure, not only because they did not intend to be moved by them, but also because intervention by the Vatican on behalf of Rome, as distinguished from the Vatican City, suggested that the Pope was intervening to protect the Italian State and the Fascist Government from the consequences of their action in regard to the bombing of London. His Majesty's Government were disappointed that His Holiness had not publicly condemned the bombing of the shrines of the Anglican Church, such as St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abber, Canterbury Cathedral and Coventry Cathedral by the Germans, supported in many cases by the Italian Air Force. They renewed their pledge that, should Rome be bombed, every effort would be made to avoid the Vatican City; they pointed out that such endeavours would be greatly facilitated if the Vatican precincts were suitably marked by day and night, and they therefore suggested that immediate steps should be taken to make the limits of the Vatican City clearly distinguishable from the air by day or night.

His Majesty's Minister was informed that the tone of this communication had deeply pained both the Pope and his Secretary of State. It was denied that the Pope's intervention on behalf of Rome was inspired by any desire to protect

the Fascist Government. As regards the bombing of Anglican cathedrals, it was pointed out that the Pope, in his repeated appeals, made no distinction of nationality or creed. The traditional and universal character of Rome was again stressed. It was said to be quite impracticable to mark the limits of the Vatican City: its position was already unmistakably indicated by the dome of St. Peter's any further distinguishing marks would serve as a guide for attacks on the rest of Rome, and there was other extra-territorial Vatican property in Rome, the marking of which would be even more impracticable.

In the course of the year the Pope received a number of more or less eminent visitors; they included Mr. Myron Taylor, the Special Representative of President Roosevelt, in February; Herr von Ribbentrop (who is believed to have assured the Pope that the war would be over in the autumn); Mr. Sumner Welles and Count Teleki in March; the Japanese Mission to Italy in May; a Portuguese Mission for the signature of the new concordat in June; and General Antonescu in November.

The relations of the Holy See with foreign Governments and those of the Sovereign Pontiff with heads of States were gravely affected by the German victories and consequent occupation of the conquered countries, and also by the Italian entry into the war.

Relations between the Vatican and His Majesty's Government remained normal and cordial, and were only briefly interrupted by difficulties of communication after the transfer of the legation to the Vatican City. The decision of His Majesty's Government that the British representative to the Holy See should remain in touch with the Pope and his Secretariat of State was duly appreciated, both because it strengthened the position of the Vatican under the Lateran Treaty and because it enabled the Holy See to deal directly with His Majesty's Government on a number of practical issues deriving from the war (Vatican diplomatic representation and missionary interests in the African war zone and the British Empire generally, prisoners of war and interned civilians, &c.).

The perennial issue of the succession to the Malta Archbishopric evaded solution for another year. In the spring, and again in the summer, the Vatican were most strongly urged to appoint Father Zarb as Archbishop or, failing this, as Coadjutor to the Archbishop, with the right of succession. It was impressed on the Vatican that, apart from the hardship on the Maltese people of not having active spiritual leadership and support in their hour of severe trial, it was impossible for the British civil authorities to elaborate the long overdue policy of social reforms without the collaboration and assistance of the Archbishop, the actual incumbent being too old and too ill to undertake the necessary labour. The Vatican reply was that Father Zarb could not be appointed Coadjutor, with or without right to the succession, until his qualifications had been established by careful enquiry. His Majesty's Minister thereupon took the matter to the Pope, who replied in the same sense, adding that he could not appoint Father Zarb, since all the evidence available about him showed him to be a man of great learning and piety, but a child in practical matters. This judgment of Father Zarb was strongly contested by His Majesty's Minister, on the grounds that the British authorities in Malta were anxious for his appointment in order to be able to work out with him a programme of reform.

In the course of the summer His Majesty's Minister was instructed to ask the Vatican to recall from Mombasa the Apostolic Delegate to East Africa, Mgr. Riberi, and two missionaries attached to the delegation, one of German, the other of Italian birth. It was made clear that the request involved no reflection upon the persons affected (indeed, Mgr. Riberi's relations with the British colonial authorities were excellent, and he has freely voiced his admiration of the British colonial system and of its treatment of the missions); it was advanced solely in the interest of good relations between His Majesty's Government and the Holy See, and was inspired by the report of the Governor of Kenya Colony that the presence in the colony of Vatican representatives of enemy nationality was disturbing to the British community. The Vatican strongly demurred to this request, and claimed that they could not comply with it without creating a dangerous precedent and endangering the right of the Holy See. However, His Majesty's Government were unable to reconsider their decision, and Mgr. Riberi and the two missionaries returned to Rome.

While the question of the recall of Mgr. Riberi was under discussion, the Holy See announced its intention of giving Vatican City nationality to all

of its diplomatic representatives abroad, and enquired of His Majesty's Government, and of other Governments, whether they had any objection to that assumption by British subjects in the Vatican Diplomatic Service, either to-day or in the future, of Vatican citizenship during their period of office. His Majesty's Government replied that they had no objection to this arrangement, but when it was invoked at the eleventh hour in favour of Mgr. Riberi they expressed their regret that they could not withdraw their request for his recall.

Vatican relations with Italy were complicated during the year by the increase of German influence at Rome and by Italy's own entry into the war. This raised the delicate question of the rights of the Vatican and of foreign diplomats accredited to the Holy See under the relevant articles of the Lateran Treaty. On the interpretation of these articles, as will be seen from subsequent paragraphs, the Vatican had to yield to the Italian Government, and it cannot be said, in this or in other cases, to have displayed great energy in defending its rights. A previous incident had been the action of the Italian Government, or of the German Government working through the Italian, in stopping the Vatican paper, the *Osservatore Romano*, from publishing its admirably objective daily leading articles on the political developments of the day. These articles, and the fact that the *Osservatore* was the only paper in Italy publishing unbiassed news and objective comment, had enormously increased its circulation, not only in Rome, but all over Italy. Truth and objectivity being obnoxious to the Nazis, and consequently to their non-belligerent Fascist allies, the usual artillery of threats and blackmail were brought to bear upon the Vatican, but not before attempts forcibly to prevent the paper's sale outside Vatican territory had proved unavailing. The paper did not appear for two or three days, and then reappeared with no leading articles, no editorial comment, no military information and a minimum of innocuous political news. It was a tragic defeat for the cause of an independent Vatican City State, and also a severe blow to the prestige of the Holy See. The anxiety complex instilled in Vatican circles by this incident was not allowed to die, though the loyalty of Italian Catholics to the Papacy were recognised and honoured by the preservation of outwardly correct relations.

In May, Attolico, Italian Ambassador in Berlin, and Alfieri, Italian Ambassador to the Holy See, exchanged posts.

The Germans took less pains to preserve appearances, though the German Legation to the Holy See, under an old and ill ambassador, observed the requirements of the protocol. But in Germany, Nazi contempt for the rights of the Church, both spiritual rights and property rights, continued to be progressively more widely and openly demonstrated. More and more religious houses were taken over, the practice of religion was ever more effectually penalised and the process of weaning German youth from spiritual allegiance to the Churches was effectively prosecuted. At the same time, the German authorities, for propaganda purposes in Catholic countries, intimated that relations between the Church and the Reich were improving. To all of this the Holy See seems to have submitted in a spirit of anticipatory and acquiescent martyrdom.

In Occupied France, Belgium and Holland the Germans, during 1940, seem to have hoped to disguise the fundamentally anti-religious policy of the Nazi régime, and an armed truce was maintained during the first months. In Unoccupied France, at least, the Vatican was gratified by the markedly Catholic policy of the Pétain régime, and this was sometimes wrongly interpreted as Vatican support of the policy of collaboration. The Pétain Government returned religious properties that had not already been disposed of and restored religious teaching to the educational curriculum, though the instruction was administered in the churches and not in the schools. The new French officialdom was strongly Catholic. In August the Pope addressed a letter to the French episcopate expressing his sympathy with French Catholics in the misfortunes that had befallen their country. Although this letter was typically cautious in its avoidance of any political implication, it aroused the indignation of Signor Farinacci, who prides himself on being a better Catholic than the Pope and a greater enthusiast for the Axis than Mussolini, thus getting the best of both worlds in print.

M. Charles-Roux, who had been French Ambassador to the Holy See, was recalled from his post in May to take up the position of Secretary-General at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; he was succeeded by Count Vladimir d'Ormesson, of the *Figaro*, a man of exceptional ability, courage and charm, who, after six tragic months at his post, was replaced by a Laval nominee, M. Bérard, Senator

and Academician of France. There is good reason to suppose that it was Ribbentrop who secured Count d'Ormesson's replacement for political reasons.

When the German authorities demanded that foreign diplomats leave Dutch and Belgian territory the Holy See asked whether the Nuncio in Brussels and the Inter-Nuncio in Holland might not remain in their respective residences, not in their diplomatic capacity, but in order to exercise purely ecclesiastical authority in respect of the Belgian and Dutch episcopates. The German Government refused this request.

The Vatican were deeply distressed by events in Poland, but were able to do little to help the Poles, either materially or spiritually. The Pope, speaking on the 2nd June, referred to the rights of the inhabitants of occupied countries, and mentioned Poland. In January, and again in the autumn, the Vatican radio condemned the German treatment of the Poles and of the Catholic Church in Poland. The Pope contributed generously to Polish relief. The Vatican despatched a chargé d'affairs, Mgr. Pacini, to Angers to retain in being the Nunciature to Poland, but when the Polish Government subsequently removed to London Mgr. Pacini was not allowed to follow it, and representation of the Holy See came to an end. The Vatican also refused to send an apostolic visitor to Poland, stating that the German Government had refused permission; suggestions that the fact of this refusal should be made public had no success.

Mr. Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's special representative to the Pope, reached Rome in February and presented, in lieu of credentials, an autograph letter from Mr. Roosevelt. His mission and his personality were highly acceptable, both to the Pope himself and to the Vatican generally. The general purpose of his appointment seems to have been to facilitate collaboration between the Pope and the President in any possible measure for mitigating the sufferings caused by the war and perhaps, too, for preventing its extension, with particular reference to Italy. Little came of these endeavours, in spite of every effort on both sides immediately prior to Italy's declaration of war. Shortly after this Mr. Taylor became dangerously ill at his villa in Florence, but was able to return to the United States. His character and his goodwill endeared him both to the Vatican and to his colleagues. When he returned to the United States his mission was in suspense, except in so far as he was able to communicate with the Holy See through the United States Embassy in Rome.

With Spain and Portugal relations were normal. On the signature of the new concordat the Portuguese representation at the Holy See was promoted to an embassy. The dispute with the Spanish Government regarding the right of appointment of bishops dragged on, but the difference was discussed in a friendly spirit. The Germans made the most of their influence in Spain for purposes of Catholic propaganda.

Prior to the entry of Italy into the war the French and British Governments instructed their representatives that, in the event of war, they should, if possible, remain in touch with the Pope and his Secretariat of State. The French Ambassador and the British Minister on various occasions enquired at the Secretariat of State whether any arrangements were being made for the accommodation of the two missions in the not improbable event of the Italian Government refusing to honour their engagements under the Lateran Treaty and declining to permit Vatican diplomats to remain in Rome when their countries were at war with Italy. On the 21st May the Secretariat of State notified the French, British, Belgian, Polish, Roumanian and Yugoslav Missions that they had approached the Italian authorities with a view to securing, in the event of Italy entering into the war, that all diplomatic missions to the Holy See should be able to continue to reside in Rome. Should these steps be negative in results, continued the Secretariat's note, it would be necessary to contemplate the eventuality of residence outside Italian territory for missions of Powers at war with Italy. The Secretariat of State stated that, for its part, it would desire to be able to assure these missions residence within the Vatican City, but, unfortunately, this possibility offered considerable difficulties. It could not be disguised, for instance, that the missions would find themselves in considerable embarrassment should they be transferred to the Vatican City, notably in regard to their possibilities of correspondence by bag with their Governments. In any case, even if the eventuality of residence in the Vatican City were found to be possible, it could only, owing to the lack of space, apply in the case of each mission to two persons, *i.e.*, the head of the mission and a secretary. The

Secretariat of State therefore considered it desirable to advise members of the diplomatic missions concerned to make arrangements at once for the disposal of their families.

In acknowledging receipt of this note the recipient missions, after consultation, formulated express reserves regarding the integrity of the rights assured to missions accredited to the Holy See, both by international law and by the provisions of the Lateran Treaty, more particularly in regard to free access to the Pope and freedom of correspondence.

The French Ambassador and His Majesty's Minister informed the Vatican that, in the event of war between Italy and their countries they would expect a formal written notification as to whether or not they were to enjoy the right, contemplated in article 12 of the Lateran Treaty, to continue to reside at the official residences of the two missions in Rome. (It is admitted that this provision is open to doubt and dispute.) The main purpose of this communication was to establish British and French support of the treaty rights of the Holy See and, eventually, to obtain a written statement of the Vatican's failure to assert those rights.

On the 10th June the Secretariat of State informed His Majesty's Minister, with regret, that—

(1) The Italian authorities, despite many representations by the Secretariat of State on the basis of paragraph 2 of article 12 of the Lateran Treaty, had declared officially that, in case of war, they would not tolerate the presence on Italian territory of diplomatic missions accredited to the Holy See of nations with which Italy was at war. In view of the situation arising out of this decision the Secretariat of State confirmed its previous assurances that the Holy See, in order to meet the desire expressed by the legation, on the instructions of its Government, to remain in any event in contact with the Pope, was prepared to receive within the Vatican City the personnel strictly necessary for the functioning of the mission, it being understood that this would not exceed two persons with their respective families.

(2) As regards the free correspondence of the legation with the British Government, the Secretariat of State regretted to inform the legation that the Italian authorities positively refused to guarantee this, and the Vatican City was not in a position to ensure it.

(3) The Secretariat of State considered it its duty to add that, the Vatican City having no means of defence, families receiving hospitality in it would do so at their own risk and peril.

On the 19th June, after his establishment in the Vatican City, His Majesty's Minister was given a copy of the reply of the Vatican, dated the 17th June, to a note of the French Ambassador of the 11th June, answering the Vatican's note of the 10th June. The intention was, as was explained to His Majesty's Minister by the Under-Secretary at the Vatican, to supplement and modify the former communication of the 10th June, which, it was felt, did not sufficiently clarify the position of the Holy See.

Certain differences between the note of the 10th June and this later memorandum were evident. For instance, the first had stated that the Italian authorities refused to tolerate the presence on Italian soil of missions of countries at war with Italy; the second declared that the reason alleged by the Italians for their refusal was their reluctance to undertake the responsibility for the retention and defence of the missions in the case of war.

His Majesty's Minister was eventually instructed to reply to this communication of the 17th June, since it was considered desirable that His Majesty's Government should do everything possible to strengthen the hands of the Vatican *vis-à-vis* the Italian Government. A communication was therefore addressed to the Vatican, recalling the position under article 12 of the Lateran Treaty, expressing the regret of His Majesty's Government that the Vatican were not able to ensure the retention of His Majesty's Mission in Italian territory, in accordance with the provisions of the treaty, after the outbreak of hostilities between Italy and the United Kingdom; taking note of the disparity between the two accounts of the Italian Government's reasons for not agreeing to this and suggesting that the latter explanation was of the nature of a specious excuse to

evade Italian obligations under the treaty; pointing out that the enforced transfer of the British Mission to the Vatican City was due to the Vatican's failure to secure observance of their treaty rights; and, finally, after reminding the Vatican that insistence on their treaty rights would have enabled them to guarantee freedom of correspondence, expressing appreciation of the arrangements which they had made for communication between the mission and His Majesty's Government through the medium of Vatican representatives abroad.

His Majesty's Minister transferred from the Legation Villa to the Vatican City on the 13th June. The Nuncio in Rome assumed charge of the villa and its contents and of the separate Chancery premises; also of the English, Scots, Canadian and Beda Colleges, the Blue Nuns Hospital and, generally, of the interests of British ecclesiastics, nuns and ecclesiastical students in Italy. In the autumn the leases of the Legation Villa and the Chancery were terminated. The Government furniture was stored at the embassy, with the exception of what was required for the accommodation provided in the Vatican City; all of the Minister's furniture was brought to the Vatican City.

The French Ambassador and Counsellor, with their respective families; the Polish Ambassador, with his family, his Ecclesiastical Counsellor and a married attaché; and the Belgian Ambassador, with his family, also came to the Vatican City. But after some months the Belgian Ambassador was allowed to return to his residence in Rome, presumably because Italy was not at war with Belgium. Nor was she with Polond, but the Poles remained in the Vatican City. The British and French judges on the rota also removed to the Vatican City for residence, but were free to go into Rome for their work at the court. After the armistice with France the French diplomats obtained permission to go into Rome and, during the summer, to make excursions to the sea or country, but they were always accompanied on these occasions by a plain clothes policeman.

In accordance with arrangement, the secretary to His Majesty's Legation proceeded, with his family, to Berne to act as liaison officer between the Minister and the Foreign Office. This arrangement proved satisfactory. During the first three months all communications between the Minister and the Foreign Office were effected through the medium of letters exchanged between the minister in the Vatican City and the secretary at Berne, such correspondence being conveyed by the Vatican courier service with Berne. But subsequently cypher telegrams for the minister were sent to His Majesty's Legation at Berne and thence were forwarded by the Secretary to the Minister by Vatican courier, and *vice versa*. This courier service was bi-weekly each way. Later still a direct bag service between the Vatican City and the Foreign Office was instituted via His Majesty's Embassy, Lisbon, the Lisbon Nunciature and the Vatican, but, owing to the slowness and uncertainty of this line of communication, it was not used for very confidential matter.

On the request of the Secretariat of State, His Majesty's Minister gave a personal undertaking that, in return for the favour of the facilities of the Vatican courier service, he would confine his correspondence to matters appertaining to his mission, and would abstain from all communication on Italian military matters or domestic conditions.

R 183

British Legation to the Holy See,

VATICAN CITY,

November 13th 1941.

R10496

No. 107
(66/4/41)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Political Review for 1940, as requested in your despatch No. 24 (L 2344/447/405) of September 26th. I am not sure just what is required as my copy of the Circular of November 4th, 1939 was destroyed with my archives before I came into the Vatican City and I was unable to obtain a copy from His Majesty's Legation at Berne, who had also destroyed theirs. I had no archives prior to the middle of June and certain confidential papers in my Vatican files I thought it better to destroy too. My material was thus limited and my memory is unreliable. I hope therefore that my report is more or less what is required. I should be grateful if I might be sent a copy of the Circular or, better, if its substance could be briefly telegraphed to me, for my guidance in preparing the report for 1941.

L6851/842/405 1939 (copy of Circular arrives)

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne

The Right Honourable

Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

At the end of 1939 the prestige of the new Pope had reached a high point. In his Encyclical "Summi Pontificatus" he had profoundly and eloquently diagnosed the ills of the world, which had culminated in the war. In his Christmas address to the Cardinals he had enunciated his Five Conditions of Peace. He had exchanged formal Visits of State with the Italian Sovereigns and it was hoped that the friendly relations thus established might operate to save Italy from participation in the war. But both Quirinal and Vatican were helpless in the face of Mussolini's ambitions and his misjudgment of the war situation in June, 1940.

2. With Italy's entry into the war the whole position radically altered and from this moment the moral prestige of the Papacy began to decline. The physical and political situation of the Vatican City State, as a neutral enclave in a belligerent country, was a delicate one, and the progressive growth of German influence at Rome made it still more difficult. Axis methods of blackmail were used to good effect. The voice of the Vatican which, under Pius XI, had fearlessly pronounced the moral verdict of Christian civilisation alike against Bolshevist atheism and Nazi statolatry and their common oppression of religion, was discreetly lowered, though not stilled, and its words and sentiments still more discreetly adjusted to the exigencies of an anxious neutrality. The Pope, sensitive and impressionable by temperament and naturally inclined to caution and compromise, bowed to what he conceived to be both duty and necessity and entered on the path followed by Benedict XV in the last war. But it is fair to say that he has another reason for preserving an unimpeachable neutrality, and that is that he aspires to play a role in the restoration of peace. He does not realise

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that the abnegation of moral leadership in the interests of a strict neutrality are likely to hinder rather than to advance that ambition.

3. Throughout the year, in a number of public or published utterances, he prayed for peace and deplored the horrors of war. At a Papal Mass in St. Peter's on March 3rd he delivered a sermon before a large crowd and ended with a moving prayer for a Christian peace. His formula for a just, lasting and therefore Christian peace is that it must be based upon justice interpreted in a spirit of charity (Peace = $\frac{\text{Justice}}{\text{Charity}}$ would be the mathematical formula).

At the Papal Mass on Easter Sunday he delivered another sermon, deploring the ruin of war and the violation of international law:-

> "Often we see the very law governing the relations between civilised peoples violated: open cities and villages of peasants are terrorised, burnt and devastated by bombardment; unarmed citizens, even the sick and the old and innocent children, are deprived of their homes and often killed."

4 In a long address to the College of Cardinals on June 2nd, he referred to his own unceasing efforts on behalf of peace, spoke of the progressive weakening of the rule of law and its substitution by the rule of force, which vitiates and suffocates all ethical and juridical impulses, declared that the treatment of non-combatants in more than one region was far from conforming to the laws of humanity and insisted that justice and equity demanded that the population of occupied countries should be treated by the occupying Power as it would desire to see its own nationals treated.

5 At a public audience on July 10th he condemned the tendency of natural patriotic instincts to degenerate into a passion for revenge. (The deliberate inculcation of a spirit of hatred and revenge is of course the deliberate and admitted policy of the totalitarian States.) At another public audience on August 7th he denounced the printed lie

(referring...

(referring to the press) and the deliberate destruction of brotherly relations: "This work of hatred is accomplished sometimes with books, but more often through the press." He concluded his address with the assertion that "the written lie may become no less deadly than the armoured car or the bombing plane."

6 In receiving the Credentials of the new Roumanian Minister on November 15th, the Pope spoke of three fundamental principles: respect for religion, the faithful observance of contractual engagements and defence of peace.

7 He ordered special Masses and prayers throughout the world on November 24th for the souls of victims of the war, for the comfort of refugees, prisoners of war and other sufferers, and for the restoration of order and justice. The Papal Mass in St. Peter's on that day was marked as an occasion of mourning and intercession by the fact that the Papal Court, the Cardinals, the Vatican officials and the Diplomatic Corps did not wear full dress uniform and the Pope himself entered the Basilica on foot. The "Osservatore Romano" hailed one passage in his sermon as a synthesis of the Five Conditions of Peace of the preceding Christmas:-

> ". . . that there be set up an order of things juster and more harmonious, based on that justice which soothes passions, allays hatreds, quenches rancour and bickerings; an order that would tend to give to every people in tranquillity, in liberty and in security that portion which belongs to each of the earthly sources of prosperity and power. . ."

His Majesty's Minister had suggested that the Pope should say something in his address in condemnation of the admitted German policy of the destruction of cities and the consequent massacre of civilians; the result of this suggestion was the reference to:-

> "whirlwinds that in the light of day, or in the dark of the night, scatter terror, fire, destruction and slaughter on helpless folk".

8 In a <u>Motu Proprio</u> of December 1st the Pope expressed

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expressed the hope that on Christmas Eve and Day "there may prevail, either spontaneously or by mutual agreement between all belligerents, a truce . . ". At the same time His Holiness addressed a special appeal in this sense to the British and German Governments. While the Germans did not answer, His Majesty's Government replied that the suggestion was unfortunately impracticable.

9 Lastly, in his address to the Cardinals at the end of the year, the Pope laid down Five Prerequisites of Peace, which should be read in connection with his Five Peace Conditions of the previous Christmas. These were:-

1. Triumph over hate, and systems and practices feeding hate.

2. Triumph over mistrust, destructive of international law and treaties.

3. Triumph over interest as the basis and criterion of right; embodied in the principle that might makes right, rendering precarious all international relations, especially for small nations.

4. Progressive adjustment of economic inequalities.

5. Triumph over cold-blooded egoism, emboldened by strength, which ends by violating, not only the honour and sovereignty of States, but also the wholesome ordered liberty of men; and a declaration of principle in favour of the recognition of indisputable rights.

In the course of his address the Pope again implicitly condemned indiscriminate bombing when he observed that the conflict piled up ruins and did not spare venerable shrines, famous monuments or charitable institutions,and that it was oblivious of the laws of humanity and careless of the usages and conventions of war. He also referred to his efforts to help prisoners of war and interned civilians and, presumably referring to his difficulties with the German authorities with regard to Poland, declared that these efforts had been frustrated in some countries. In thus condemning the violation of international law, the disregard of the laws of humanity and of the rules of war, the destruction of cities and monu-

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ments, the massacre of innocent people, the ill-treatment of non-combatants, lack of respect for religion, cold-blooded egoism and the principle that might makes right, the Pope implicitly condemned Nazi methods. It should be recorded that on May 10th, when Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg were invaded by Germany, the Pope addressed to the Sovereigns of those countries a telegram expressing his distress and particular paternal interest; and that at the end of September he instructed the Apostolic Delegate in London to convey to Their Majesties The King and Queen his congratulations on their escape on the occasion of the bombing of Buckingham Palace.

10 On December 6th the "Osservatore Romano" published a Decree of the Holy Office, dated November 27th, 1940, to the following effect:-

"This Supreme Congregation has been asked: 'Whether it is permissible, by order of the public authority, directly to kill those who, although they have committed no crime worthy of death, nevertheless on account of mental or physical defects, can be of no use to the nation, but are rather considered to be a burden to the same, and a hindrance to its vigour and strength'.

REPLY: 'In the NEGATIVE; since it is contrary to the natural, and to the divine positive law.'"

11 While resolved to spare no effort that might contribute to the reestablishment of peace, the Pope fully realised that a premature initiative would be fatal to his hopes. At the end of June he informed His Majesty's Minister that he had been making indirect soundings in London, Berlin and Rome as to the possible prospects of a compromise peace. (The hope of this was widely entertained in Vatican circles after the French collapse.) A suggestion on these lines uttered by the Nuncio at Berne and reported to London by His Majesty's Legation elicited a reply to the effect that it would be an illusion to think that His Majesty's Government might be prepared to negotiate with either Hitler or Mussolini; neither they nor the Dominions were deterred by

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the French collapse from their determination to carry on the war against Germany and Italy. Meanwhile the Apostolic Delegate in London, on instructions from Rome, addressed the following letter to the Secretary of State:-

"Dear Lord Halifax,

The Holy Father, deeply distressed at the prospect of the endless grief and irreparable loss which the imminent accentuation of hostilities will cause, has in mind, of his own initiative, to approach the Governments of Germany, England and Italy, appealing to them to make an effort by common agreement to bring this conflict to an end.

The sole motive for such a step on the part of the Pope is to make a supreme effort for the salvation of humanity and civilisation; confident as he is that the people desire a just and honourable peace and that the prolongation of the war may easily give rise to further conflicts and crises.

Before taking such a step, however, His Holiness has asked me to make confidential enquiry regarding the attitude of His Majesty's Government to any such appeal.

With the expression of my high regard,

I am, etc.

(Signed) William Godfrey,
Apostolic Delegate."

In reply he was handed the following Aide Memoire by the Secretary of State and was told that it was hoped that he would leave the Pope in no doubt at all of our determination not to acquiesce in Hitler's programme for making himself master of Europe:-

"His Majesty's Government fully appreciate the lofty motives which have impelled His Holiness to take this step.

Their position has repeatedly been made plain. They only came into the war in pursuance of a pledge to support a friendly country in defence of its independence.

So far as Italy is concerned, they had no quarrel with that country. The Italian Government without reason given declared war on Great Britain.

His Majesty's Government cannot desert the cause of Allies whose independence has been temporarily destroyed.

They have no wish to destroy Germany but are determined not to see Europe and themselves under Nazi domination and will be prepared to fight to the end against it."

On the occasion of Hitler's peace "offer" in July and the Secretary of State's speech in reply both the Pope and Cardinal Secretary of State expressed their regret that

Lord...

Lord Halifax had not more clearly invited Hitler to state his peace conditions and proposals. An expression of this regret was conveyed to His Majesty's Government through the Apostolic Delegate in London. It was made clear that the Vatican's intention was only to urge His Majesty's Government not lightheartedly to accept responsibility for the continuance of the war; it was thought that we should have gone farther to avoid any possible onus of responsibility if we had invited Hitler to express himself more clearly.

12 In August the Pope informed His Majesty's Minister that, in spite of press reports to the contrary, he was not engaging in any soundings or conversations since he realised that, in view of the reply given to the Apostolic Delegate in London on July 2nd, the present prospects of any initiative were not favourable.

13 There is no doubt that the Pope suffers deeply and continuously under the tragedy of the war. Having been unable to avert war, and being unable to promote peace, he seeks such slight consolation as it offers in unremitting endeavour to do all that is in his power to alleviate the sufferings of refugees, prisoners of war and interned civilians. For this purpose he ordered the Secretariat of State to set up in the Vatican City a special Information Bureau to deal with enquiries regarding prisoners of war. He also contributed liberally to Polish and other relief funds.

14 Condemned by circumstances and his conception of his duty to temporary eclipse in the role of Sovereign Pontiff, he seems to have sought comfort and compensation in the lesser part of Bishop of Rome. He spent the summer in Rome instead of going to his summer villa at Castel Gandolfo in order, according to the "Osservatore Romano", to assure to the Roman population the continued comfort of his presence.

15 In the first months after Italy's entry into the war...

war he exerted all his influence to ensure that Rome, on account of its sacred character and tradition, should be spared aerial bombardment. The argument that it was also the capital of a belligerent State seemed to be regarded by the Vatican as a subordinate factor in the situation, as though Fascist Italy were a mere transitory episode in the history of Rome. On the Italian declaration of war the Pope first requested the British and French Governments to abstain from any military operations against Rome out of respect for its sacred character. The French Government replied that they would abstain from aerial bombardment of the city out of regard for the Holy See. His Majesty's Government's reply was that they had no intention in any circumstances of attacking the Vatican City, but that their action in regard to the rest of Rome must necessarily depend upon the extent to which the Italian Government observed the rules of war. On June 15th the Apostolic Delegate delivered a message from the Cardinal regarding the alleged dropping of leaflets on the Vatican City. He was told that, as he had already been informed, it was His Majesty's Government's intention to respect the neutrality of the Vatican City; no British aircraft had dropped leaflets on Italian territory, but, should it ever be decided to do so at Rome, it would be impossible to insure against some of them falling in error on Vatican territory.

16 In October Mussolini announced that he had obtained Hitler's permission to send Italian aircraft to cooperate in the "retaliatory" bombing of England. His Majesty's Minister thereupon requested the Cardinal Secretary of State to inform the Pope that, in his opinion, this must necessarily affect the results of His Holiness' plea on behalf of Rome. The result was that soon after the Minister was requested to renew the Pope's plea. His Majesty's Minister undertook to forward His Holiness' message to London, but said that he

was...

was unable to see that the citizens of Rome had any better right to be spared indiscriminate bombing than the citizens of London and other British cities. At the beginning of November, after Italy's invasion of Greece on October 28th, His Majesty's Minister was informed by the Under Secretary of State at the Vatican of a telegram received from the Archbishops of the Latin and Greek Rites in Athens begging the Pope to use his good offices with the Italian authorities to ensure that Athens, "like Rome", should be spared aerial bombardment, as being the two sources of civilisation; the Under Secretary added that the Pope was approaching the Italian authorities and wished to renew his appeal to His Majesty's Government in respect of Rome.

17 The Italian press meanwhile boasted of the participation of Italian aircraft in the bombing of London and on November 7th Mr. Butler stated in the House of Commons that,

> "His Majesty's Government have taken note of the Italian statement that Italian airmen and aircraft have taken part in the bombing of London and they reserve full liberty of action in regard to Rome."

18 It was about this time that the report came into circulation that, in the event of British bombardment of Rome, a specially prepared squadron of Italian or German bombers would bomb the Vatican City, probably with British bombs, in order to discredit His Majesty's Government in the eyes of Catholic world opinion. His Majesty's Minister was instructed to inform the Vatican that a report to this effect had reached London.

19 At the end of November His Majesty's Minister informed the Vatican, on the instructions of His Majesty's Government, that besides the representations to himself, the Pope had exerted pressure on His Majesty's Government through other channels to avert the bombing of Rome. The communication continued that His Majesty's Government reserved full liberty of action in regard to Rome and they deprecated these

attempts...

attempts by the Vatican to organise pressure, not only because they did not intend to be moved by them, but also because intervention by the Vatican on behalf of Rome, as distinguished from the Vatican City, suggested that the Pope was intervening to protect the Italian State and the Fascist Government from the consequences of their action in regard to the bombing of London. His Majesty's Government were disappointed that His Holiness had not publicly condemned the bombing of the shrines of the Anglican Church, such as St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury Cathedral and Coventry Cathedral by the Germans, supported in many cases by the Italian Air Force. They renewed their pledge that, should Rome be bombed, every effort would be made to avoid the Vatican City; they pointed out that such endeavours would be greatly facilitated if the Vatican precincts were suitably marked by day and night and they therefore suggested that immediate steps should be taken to make the limits of the Vatican City clearly distinguishable from the air by day or night.

20 His Majesty's Minister was informed that the tone of this communication had deeply pained both the Pope and his Secretary of State. It was denied that the Pope's intervention on behalf of Rome was inspired by any desire to protect the Fascist Government. As regards the bombing of Anglican Cathedrals, it was pointed out that the Pope, in his repeated appeals, made no distinction of nationality or creed. The traditional and universal character of Rome was again stressed. It was said to be quite impracticable to mark the limits of the Vatican City: its position was already unmistakeably indicated by the dome of St. Peter's, any further distinguishing marks would serve as a guide for attacks on the rest of Rome and there was other extraterritorial Vatican property in Rome, the marking of which would be even more impracticable.

21 In the course of the year the Pope received a number of more of less eminent visitors; they included Mr. Myron

Taylor...

Taylor, the Special Representative of President Roosevelt, in February, Herr von Ribbentrop (who is believed to have assured the Pope that the war would be over in the autumn), Mr. Sumner Welles and Count Teleki in March, the Japanese Mission to Italy in May, a Portuguese Mission for the signature of the new Concordat in June and General Antonescu in November.

22 The relations of the Holy See with foreign Governments and those of the Sovereign Pontiff with Heads of States were gravely affected by the German victories and consequent occupation of the conquered countries, and also by the Italian entry into the war.

23 Relations between the Vatican and His Majesty's Government remained normal and cordial and were only briefly interrupted by difficulties of communication after the transfer of the Legation to the Vatican City. The decision of His Majesty's Government that the British Representative to the Holy See should remain in touch with the Pope and his Secretariat of State was duly appreciated, both because it strengthened the position of the Vatican under the Lateran Treaty and because it enabled the Holy See to deal directly with His Majesty's Government on a number of practical issues deriving from the war (Vatican diplomatic representation and missionary interests in the African War Zone and in the British Empire generally, Prisoners of War and interned civilians, etc., etc.).

24 The perennial issue of the succession to the Malta Archbishopric evaded solution for another year. In the spring and again in the summer the Vatican were most strongly urged to appoint Father Zarb as Archbishop or, failing this, as Coadjutor to the Archbishop, with right of succession. It was impressed on the Vatican that, apart from the hardship on the Maltese people of not having active spiritual leadership and support in their hour of severe trial, it was impossible for the British civil authorities to elaborate the long overdue policy of social reforms without the collaboration and assist-

ance...

ance of the Archbishop, the actual incumbent being too old and too ill to undertake the necessary labour. The Vatican reply was that Father Zarb could not be appointed Coadjutor, with or without right to the succession, until his qualifications had been established by careful enquiry. His Majesty's Minister thereupon took the matter to the Pope, who replied in the same sense, adding that he could not appoint Father Zarb since all the evidence available about him showed him to be a man of great learning and piety, but a child in practical matters. This judgment of Father Zarb was strongly contested by His Majesty's Minister on the grounds that the British authorities in Malta were anxious for his appointment in order to be able to work out with him a programme of reform.

25 In the course of the summer His Majesty's Minister was instructed to ask the Vatican to recall from Mombasa the Apostolic Delegate to East Africa, Monsignor Riberi, and two missionaries attached to the Delegation, one of German, the other of Italian birth. It was made clear that the request involved no reflection upon the persons affected (indeed Monsignor Riberi's relations with the British Colonial authorities were excellent and he has freely voiced his admiration of the British colonial system and of its treatment of the Missions); it was advanced solely in the interest of good relations between His Majesty's Government and the Holy See and was inspired by the report of the Governor of Kenya Colony that the presence in the Colony of Vatican Representatives of enemy nationality was disturbing to the British community. The Vatican strongly demurred to this request and claimed that they could not comply with it without creating a dangerous precedent and endangering the right of the Holy See. However, His Majesty's Government were unable to reconsider their decision and Monsignor Riberi and the two missionaries returned to Rome.

While the question of the recall of Monsignor Riberi

was...

was under discussion the Holy See announced its intention of giving Vatican City nationality to all of its diplomatic Representatives abroad and enquired of His Majesty's Government, and of other Governments, whether they had any objection to the assumption by British subjects in the Vatican Diplomatic Service, either to-day or in the future, of Vatican citizenship during their period of office. His Majesty's Government replied that they had no objection to this arrangement, but when it was invoked at the eleventh hour in favour of Monsignor Riberi they expressed their regret that they could not withdraw their request for his recall.

26 Vatican relations with Italy were complicated during the year by the increase of German influence at Rome and by Italy's own entry into the war. This raised the delicate question of the rights of the Vatican, and of foreign diplomats accredited to the Holy See, under the relevant articles of the Lateran Treaty. On the interpretation of these articles, as will be seen from subsequent paragraphs, the Vatican had to yield to the Italian Government and it cannot be said, in this or in other cases, to have displayed great energy in defending its rights. A previous incident had been the action of the Italian Government, or of the German Government working through the Italian, in stopping the Vatican paper, the "Osservatore Romano", from publishing its admirably objective daily leading articles on the political developments of the day. These articles, and the fact that the "Osservatore" was the only paper in Italy publishing unbiassed news and objective comment, had enormously increased its circulation, not only in Rome, but all over Italy. Truth and objectivity being obnoxious to the Nazis, and consequently to their non-belligerent Fascist allies, the usual artillery of threats and blackmail were brought to bear upon the Vatican, but not before attempts forcibly to prevent the paper's sale outside Vatican territory had proved unavailing. The paper did not appear for two or three days and

then...

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then...

then reappeared with no leading articles, no editorial comment, no military information and a minimum of innocuous political news. It was a tragic defeat for the cause of an independent Vatican City State and also a severe blow to the prestige of the Holy See. The anxiety complex instilled in Vatican circles by this incident was not allowed to die, though the loyalty of Italian Catholics to the Papacy was recognised and honoured by the preservation of outwardly correct relations.

27 In May Attolico, Italian Ambassador in Berlin, and Alfieri, Italian Ambassador to the Holy See, exchanged posts.

28 The Germans took less pains to preserve appearances, though the German Legation to the Holy See, under an old and ill Ambassador, observed the requirements of the protocol. But in Germany Nazi contempt for the rights of the Church, both spiritual rights and property rights, continued to be progressively more widely and openly demonstrated. More and more religious Houses were taken over, the practice of religion was ever more effectually penalised and the process of weaning German youth from spiritual allegiance to the Churches was effectively prosecuted. At the same time the German authorities, for propaganda purposes in Catholic countries, intimated that relations between the Church and the Reich were improving. To all of this the Holy See seems to have submitted in a spirit of anticipatory and acquiescent martyrdom.

29 In Occupied France, Belgium and Holland the Germans, during 1940, seem to have hoped to disguise the fundamentally anti-religious policy of the Nazi regime, and an armed truce was maintained during the first months. In Unoccupied France, at least, the Vatican was gratified by the markedly Catholic policy of the Pétain regime, and this was sometimes wrongly interpreted as Vatican support of the policy of collaboration. The Pétain Government returned religious properties that had not already been disposed of and restored religious teaching

to...

to the educational curriculum, though the instruction was administered in the churches and not in the schools. The new French officialdom was strongly Catholic. In August the Pope addressed a letter to the French episcopate expressing his sympathy with French Catholics in the misfortunes that had befallen their country. Although this letter was typically cautious in its avoidance of any political implication, it aroused the indignation of Signor Farinacci, who prides himself on being a better Catholic than the Pope and a greater enthusiast for the Axis than Mussolini, thus getting the best of both worlds in print.

30 Monsieur Charles-Roux, who had been French Ambassador to the Holy See, was recalled from his post in May to take up the position of Secretary-General at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; he was succeeded by Count Vladimir d'Ormesson of the "Figaro", a man of exceptional ability, courage and charm, who, after six tragic months at his post, was replaced by a Laval nominee, Monsieur Bérard, Senator and Academician of France. There is good reason to suppose that it was Ribbentrop who secured Count d'Ormesson's replacement for political reasons.

31 When the German authorities demanded that foreign diplomats leave Dutch and Belgian territory, the Holy See asked whether the Nuncio in Brussels and the Inter-Nuncio in Holland might not remain in their respective residences, not in their diplomatic capacity, but in order to exercise purely ecclesiastical authority in respect of the Belgian and Dutch episcopates. The German Government refused this request.

32 The Vatican were deeply distressed by events in Poland, but were able to do little to help the Poles, either materially or spiritually. The Pope, speaking on June 2nd, referred to the rights of the inhabitants of occupied countries and mentioned Poland. In January, and again in the autumn, the Vatican Radio condemned the German treatment of the

Poles...

Poles and of the Catholic Church in Poland. The Pope contributed generously to Polish relief. The Vatican despatched a Chargé d'Affaires, Monsignor Pacini, to Angers to retain in being the Nunciature to Poland, but when the Polish Government subsequently removed to London Monsignor Pacini was not allowed to follow it and representation of the Holy See came to an end. The Vatican also refused to send an Apostolic Visitor to Poland, stating that the German Government had refused permission; suggestions that the fact of this refusal should be made public had no success.

33 Mr. Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's special Representative to the Pope reached Rome in February and presented, in lieu of Credentials, an autograph letter from Mr. Roosevelt. His mission and his personality were highly acceptable, both to the Pope himself and to the Vatican generally. The general purpose of his appointment seems to have been to facilitate collaboration between the Pope and the President in any possible measures for mitigating the sufferings caused by the war and perhaps, too, for preventing its extension, with particular reference to Italy. Little came of these endeavours in spite of every effort on both sides immediately prior to Italy's declaration of war. Shortly after this Mr. Taylor became dangerously ill at his villa in Florence, but was able to return to the United States. His character and his goodwill endeared him, both to the Vatican and to his colleagues. When he returned to the United States his mission was in suspense except in so far as he was able to communicate with the Holy See through the United States Embassy in Rome.

34 With Spain and Portugal relations were normal. On the signature of the new Concordat the Portuguese representation at the Holy See was promoted to an Embassy. The dispute with the Spanish Government regarding the right of appointment of Bishops dragged on, but the difference was discussed in a

friendly...

friendly spirit. The Germans made the most of their influence in Spain for purposes of Catholic propaganda.

35 Prior to the entry of Italy into the war the French and British Governments instructed their representatives that in the event of war they should, if possible, remain in touch with the Pope and his Secretariat of State. The French Ambassador and the British Minister on various occasions enquired at the Secretariat of State whether any arrangements were being made for the accommodation of the two Missions in the not improbable event of the Italian Government refusing to honour their engagements under the Lateran Treaty and declining to permit Vatican diplomats to remain in Rome when their countries were at war with Italy. On May 21st the Secretariat of State notified the French, British, Belgian, Polish, Roumanian, and Yugoslav Missions that they had approached the Italian authorities with a view to securing, in the event of Italy entering into the war, that all Diplomatic Missions to the Holy See should be able to continue to reside in Rome. Should these steps be negative in result, continued the Secretariat's note, it would be necessary to contemplate the eventuality of residence outside Italian territory for Missions of Powers at war with Italy. The Secretariat of State stated that, for its part, it would desire to be able to assure these Missions residence within the Vatican City, but unfortunately this possibility offered considerable difficulties. It could not be disguised, for instance, that the Missions would find themselves in considerable embarrassment should they be transferred to the Vatican City, notably in regard to their possibilities of correspondence by Bag with their Governments. In any case, even if the eventuality of residence in the Vatican City were found to be possible, it could only, owing to the lack of space, apply in the case of each Mission to two persons i.e. the Head of the Mission and a Secretary. The Secretariat of State therefore considered it desirable to advise members of the Diplomatic

Missions concerned to make arrangements at once for the disposal of their families.

36 In acknowledging receipt of this Note, the recipient Missions, after consultation, formulated express reserves regarding the integrity of the rights assured to Missions accredited to the Holy See, both by International Law and by the provisions of the Lateran Treaty, more particularly in regard to free access to the Pope and freedom of correspondence.

37 The French Ambassador and His Majesty's Minister informed the Vatican that, in the event of war between Italy and their countries, they would expect a formal written notification as to whether or not they were to enjoy the right, contemplated in Article 12 of the Lateran Treaty, to continue to reside at the official residences of the two Missions in Rome. (It is admitted that this provision is open to doubt and dispute.) The main purpose of this communication was to establish British and French support of the Treaty rights of the Holy See and, eventually, to obtain a written statement of the Vatican's failure to assert those rights.

38 On June 10th the Secretariat of State informed His Majesty's Minister, with regret, that:

1. The Italian authorities, despite many representations by the Secretariat of State on the basis of paragraph 2 of Article 12 of the Lateran Treaty, had declared officially that, in case of war, they would not tolerate the presence on Italian territory of Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Holy See of nations with which Italy was at war. In view of the situation arising out of this decision, the Secretariat of State confirmed its previous assurances that the Holy See, in order to meet the desire expressed by the Legation, on the instructions of its Government, to remain in any event in contact with the Pope, was prepared to receive within the Vatican City the personnel strictly necessary for the functioning of the Mission, it being understood that this would not exceed two persons with their

respective...

respective families.

2. As regards the free correspondence of the Legation with the British Government the Secretariat of State regretted to inform the Legation that the Italian authorities positively refused to guarantee this, and the Vatican City was not in a position to ensure it.

3. The Secretariat of State considered it its duty to add that, the Vatican City having no means of defence, families receiving hospitality in it would do so at their own risk and peril.

39 On June 19th, after his establishment in the Vatican City, His Majesty's Minister was given a copy of the reply of the Vatican, dated June 17th, to a Note of the French Ambassador of June 11th, answering the Vatican's Note of June 10th. The intention was, as was explained to His Majesty's Minister by the Under Secretary at the Vatican, to supplement and modify the former communication of June 10th which, it was felt, did not sufficiently clarify the position of the Holy See.

40 Certain differences between the Note of June 10th and this later Memorandum were evident. For instance the first had stated that the Italian authorities refused to tolerate the presence on Italian soil of Missions of countries at war with Italy; the second declared that the reason alleged by the Italians for their refusal was their reluctance to undertake the responsibility for the retention and defence of the Missions in the case of war.

41 His Majesty's Minister was eventually instructed to reply to this communication of June 17th, since it was considered desirable that His Majesty's Government should do everything possible to strengthen the hands of the Vatican vis-à-vis the Italian Government. A communication was therefore addressed to the Vatican, recalling the position under Article 12 of the Lateran Treaty; expressing the regret of His Majesty's Government that the Vatican were not able to

ensure...

ensure the retention of His Majesty's Mission in Italian territory, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, after the outbreak of hostilities between Italy and the United Kingdom; taking note of the disparity between the two accounts of the Italian Government's reasons for not agreeing to this and suggesting that the latter explanation was of the nature of a specious excuse to evade Italian obligations under the Treaty; pointing out that the enforced transfer of the British Mission to the Vatican City was due to the Vatican's failure to secure observance of their treaty rights; and finally, after reminding the Vatican that insistance on their treaty rights would have enabled them to guarantee freedom of correspondence, expressing appreciation of the arrangements which they had made for communication between the Mission and His Majesty's Government through the medium of Vatican Representatives abroad.

42 His Majesty's Minister transferred from the Legation Villa to the Vatican City on June 13th. The Nuncio in Rome assumed charge of the Villa and its contents and of the separate Chancery premises; also of the English, Scots, Canadian and Beda Colleges, the Blue Nuns Hospital and, generally, of the interests of British ecclesiastics, nuns and ecclesiastical students in Italy. In the autumn the leases of the Legation Villa and the Chancery were terminated. The Government furniture was stored at the Embassy, with the exception of what was required for the accommodation provided in the Vatican City; all of the Minister's furniture was brought to the Vatican City

43 The French Ambassador and Counsellor, with their respective families, the Polish Ambassador, with his family, his Ecclesiastical Counsellor and a married Attaché, and the Belgian Ambassador, with his family, also came to the Vatican City. But after some months the Belgian Ambassador was allowed to return to his residence in Rome, presumably because Italy was not at war with Belgium. Nor was she with Poland,

but...

but the Poles remained in the Vatican City. The British and French judges on the Rota also removed to the Vatican City for residence, but were free to go into Rome for their work at the Court. After the armistice with France the French diplomats obtained permission to go into Rome and, during the summer, to make excursions to the sea or country, but they were always accompanied on these occasions by a plain clothes policeman.

44 In accordance with arrangement, the Secretary to His Majesty's Legation proceeded, with his family, to Berne to act as liaison officer between the Minister and the Foreign Office. This arrangement proved satisfactory. During the first three months all communications between the Minister and the Foreign Office were effected through the medium of letters exchanged between the Minister in the Vatican City and the Secretary at Berne, such correspondence being conveyed by the Vatican courier service with Berne. But subsequently cypher telegrams for the Minister were sent to His Majesty's Legation at Berne and thence were forwarded by the Secretary to the Minister by Vatican courier, and vice versa. This courier service was bi-weekly each way. Later still a direct Bag service between the Vatican City and the Foreign Office was instituted via His Majesty's Embassy, Lisbon, the Lisbon Nunciature and the Vatican, but, owing to the slowness and uncertainty of this line of communication, it was not used for very confidential matter.

45 On the request of the Secretariat of State, His Majesty's Minister gave a personal undertaking that, in return for the favour of the facilities of the Vatican courier service, he would confine his correspondence to matters appertaining to his mission and would abstain from all communication on Italian military matters or domestic conditions.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry R
No. 10496/30/57

OUT FILE

17- 125

17th December 1941

B. 12/xii
Draft.

Mr Osborne

No: 31.

Sir,

I have received your despatch No 107 of November 13th and thank you for the ~~receipt~~ of report on the Holy See for 1940 which has been read with interest.

A copy of Circular despatch L 6851/842/405 of November 4th 1939 regarding the preparation of Annual Reports in war time is enclosed for your information.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant,
D. T. Hopkinson

SG. 16.xii.41.

Library first

[Has Mr Osborne not yet had the circular of Nov. 4? If yes, it can be destroyed. PDD]

PD. 13/12

126

OUT FILE

No. 31. FOREIGN OFFICE,
(R 10496/30/57). S.W.1.
17th December, 1941.

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2. A copy of circular despatch L 6851/842/405 of the 4th November, 1939 regarding the preparation of Annual Reports in war time is enclosed for your information.

I am, with great truth and regard
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

Esq D'A Howard

F. D'A. G. Osborne, Esq.,
etc., etc., etc.

78

R

1941

VATICAN

R10761

23 DEC 1941

127

Registry Number } R 10761/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne (Holy See)

No. to Mr. Howard. 9/48/41.

Dated 24th Nov., 1941.

Received in Registry } 23rd Dec., 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the war.

Encloses a copy of a letter from a French bishop to the Cardinal Secretary of State, dated 25th November, 1793, and a medal, now being hawked in the streets of Rome, asking God to curse the British. The writer of the letter describes how he carried out his instructions from the Pope to thank the British King, Government and people for the wonderful kindness and hospitality extended to the refugee French clergy during the Revolution. Has sent copies to the Pope and to the Cardinal.

The medal, apparently, is meeting with little success, considers that it is utterly un-Italian.

Last Paper.

R 10296

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

An interesting letter of which some use might be made for propaganda purposes e.g. South American countries where many catholic elements are pro-Axis.

I suggest sending a copy to M.O.5 -

The medal is apparently meeting with little success & is considered unItalian. Col. Stevens might care to see it.

RI Meade 24/XII

South American Dept.

I do not think we can use this letter for propaganda purposes. But we can certainly send Col. Stevens the medal with Mr Osborne's comment.

PS. 25/12

Medal seen by Col Stevens also informed of comment.

RJW. 1/1

(Action completed.) JC 3/1/42

(Index.) JR 24/1/42

Next Paper.

R10791.

21190 F.O.P

128

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY,
November 24th 1941.

R1076/1
23 DEC 1941

9/48/41

Dear Howard,

I enclose two curiosities: a copy of a letter from a French Bishop to the Cardinal Secretary of State, dated November 25, 1793, and a medal, now being hawked in the streets of Rome, asking God to superabundantly curse the British.

The letter was given me by a very right-thinking French Monsignore here. The writer describes how he carried out his instructions from the Pope to thank the British King, Government and people for the wonderful kindness and hospitality extended to the refugee French clergy during the Revolution. I sent copies of this letter to the Pope and the Cardinal. I thought it would be instructive to them in these days.

The medal does not apparently have much success and, I am told, arouses disgust rather than enthusiasm among the Romans. It is reported that it is being distributed among the school children. I asked the Under-

Secretary...

D.F. Howard Esq., M.C.,
Foreign Office.

Secretary at the Secretariat of State to show it to the Pope, but he said that His Holiness had already seen it. He went on to say that such a thing was utterly unItalian, and I agree. I showed it myself to the Cardinal this morning and he told me that it had already been brought to the attention of the Italian Government.

Yours ever,

D. J. Dowling

ARCHIVIO SECRETO DEL VATICANO
INGHILTERRA. 26 fol. 105

Lettre de l'Eveque de St. Po de Leon, exilé à Londres à Son Eminence le Secrétair d'Etat de Pie VI.

Monseigneur,

Sa Sainteté, instruite de l'accueil et des bienfaits que le Ecclésiastiques français ont reçus et reçoivent encore chaque jour en Angleterre, m'a chargé d'être l'Interprète de Sa reconnaissance auprè de Sa Majesté et de la Nation Britannique et de publier en même temps de quelle consolation Son coeur a été rempli lors de la suppression d'un grand nombre de lois pénales portées autrefois, dans cet Empire contre ceux qui font profession de la foi catholique, apostolique et Romaine.

Flatté d'une commission si conforme à des sentimens dont personne ne connait mieux que moi la justice, je me suis empressé de la remplir, et je n'ai pas cru pouvoir le faire plus fidèlement qu'en faisant part aux Ministres du Roi des expressions mêmes de Sa Sainteté et en les priant de les mettre sous les yeux de Sa Majesté.

Quant à la Nation Anglaise qui partage à tant de titres, toute notre reconnaissance, j'ai reconnu que les circonstances étaient telles que je devais me borner à faire connaître les sentimens de Sa Sainteté à l'Orateur celèbre, à la voix duquel le Comité s'est formé, et aux membres distingués qui le composent.

Je n'essaierai pas, Monseigneur, de vous faire ici le récit détaillé des bienfaits qui justifient si bien les sentimens de Sa Sainteté envers ce Roi et ce Peuple, nos plus insignes protecteurs; une lettre ne suffirait pas, et la renommée Vous a, sans doute, appris en gènéral l'immensité des secours que nous avons reçus en Angleterre. La générosité Anglaise est hautement reconnue par tous les peuples. Nous ne l'ignorions pas; mais aujourd'hui nous avons appris par la plus heureuse expérience toute la justice d'une réputation si glorieus Aussi n'est-il pas un de nos Ecclésiastiques qui ne s'unisse à moi pour remercier Sa Sainteté d'avoir, en quelque sorte, soulagé notre reconnaissance en y ajoutant le tribut de la Sienne. Du haut de Son Siège, le Souverain Pontife a jété Ses regards sur cette multitude de

Prêtres...

Prêtres exilés pour la Religion, dispersés par toute la terre; de larmes ont coulé de Ses yeux à l'aspect des bienfaits que les Anglais versaient sur nous; il a cru voir renaître ces antiques Romains qu'admirait S. Ambroise, et qui, par les Asiles qu'ils accordaient à l'infortune, acquéraient plus de gloire que par toutes leurs conquêtes. Nous publierons ces sentimens de Pie VI, parceque nous savons tout le prix qu'ajoute à notre gratitude celle d'un Pontife dont nous avons plus d'une fois entendu nos Bienfaiteurs admirer les Vertus, la Piété et la haute Sagesse.

Ces temples que la Loi a ouverts à notre sainte Religion; ces temples où nous trouvons tant de consolation dans notre exil, tant d'adoucissement à nos maux, nous n'y entrerons jamais sans remercier Dieu de l'asile qu'il nous a ménagé et sans l'invoquer pour un Roi qui nous couvre de Sa protection, pour un Peuple qui nous comble de ses bienfaits. Quelques soient nos malheurs et quelque doive être leur durée, nous ne perdrons jamais la confiance que la Nation Anglaise nous inspira. Nous savons que les coeurs généreux s'attachent par leurs propres bienfaits à ceux sur qui ils les répandent. Nous savons que la protection des peuples magnanimes est, en quelque sorte, l'adoption de celui qu'ils accueillent.

En portant nos regards sur l'Italie, nous n'oublions pas l'hommage qui est du au Saint Père lui-même. Nous savons au moins une partie de ce qu'il a fait pour nos frères réfugiés en Ses Etats. Nous vous prions de l'assurer que nos coeurs se sont unis à eux, pour Lui payer le tribut de notre profond respect, de notre soumission filiale, et d'une reconnaissance qu'il partage si justement avec tous les Bienfaiteurs et les Protecteurs du Clergé Français.

Je suis avec l'attachement le plus respectueux

Monseigneur,

de Votre Eminence

Le Très-humble et très-obeissant serviteur

signé. + j. pri. evèque de Leon
(Mgr. de la Marche)

25 Nov. 1793.

29

R

1941

VATICAN

132

R10791

24 DEC 1941

Registry Number } R 10791/30/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No. 117(9/54/41).

Dated 4th Dec., 1941.

Received in Registry } 24th Dec., 1941.

R: Vatican.

The Vatican and the war.

Reports that an official announcement has appeared in the "Osservatore Romano" to the effect that in view of the gravity of the International situation, the normal celebrations for the 25th Anniversary of the Episcopal consecration of the Pope will not be held, and that the occasion will be marked by a purely religious celebration. Gives summary of a Pastoral Letter published on 3rd December, on the same subject; this letter was written by Cardinal Belmonte, and in it he makes an unconvincing attempt to defend the Pope against criticism on account of his silence and inaction in the present world crisis.

Last Paper.

R 10761

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

It is not surprising that the Pope should have an uneasy conscience regarding criticism of his silence & passivity.

I agree with Mr Osborne that Cardinal Belmonte's apologia will certainly not ~~disgust~~ be considered satisfactory.

R. G. Meade
31/xii

I am afraid they leave me stone cold.

P. Dixon
31/12.

D. Howard
31/12

Ogilvie-Forbes
Jan 1

(Action completed.)

DC 2/1

(Index.)

DN
24/3/42

Next Paper.

R 124-157-42

R 133

British Legation to the Holy See,
VATICAN CITY.
December 4th 1941.

R10781
04 DEC 1941

No. 117.
(9/54/41)

Sir,

I have the honour to report that there appeared in the "Osservatore Romano" of November 26th an official announcement which stated that, the 13th of May next being the 25th anniversary of the episcopal consecration of the Pope, the occasion would normally have been one for suitable celebrations by Catholics. But the gravity of the hour does not allow of pilgrimages and other manifestations, and the Pope himself has expressed the wish that there should be nothing of the sort. The occasion will therefore be marked by a purely religious celebration. The Pope will celebrate Mass in St. Peter's and Catholics everywhere are invited to gather in their churches to honour the Catholic episcopate and hierarchy. For those who should wish to add to their prayers a tangible sign of their filial devotion, the announcement continues, it is thought that no more fit offering could be indicated and accepted than a voluntary contribution to a fund to be devoted to the building in Rome of a church dedicated to St. Eugene 1st, whose name the Pope bears. For the organisation of this programme a Committee has been formed, under the honorary patronage of Cardinal Belmonte, the Dean of the College of Cardinals, and under the effective presidency of Cardinal Marchetti; a Central Committee will be set up to coordinate the efforts of the various National Committees. Cardinal Lavitrano, Archbishop of Palermo, will head the Italian Committee.

2. In the "Osservatore"of December 3rd there was published a Pastoral Letter on the same subject, addressed to his diocese...

The Right Honourable
Anthony Eden M.P., M.C.,
Etc., etc., etc.

cese by Cardinal Belmonte, and this document is of some interest because the unfortunate impression it leaves is of an unconvincing attempt to defend the Pope against criticism on account of his silence and inaction in the present world crisis.

3. The Cardinal states that by his present appeal he desires to increase the reverence and affection of the faithful towards the person of the Pope. The Pope is, for all Catholics, the representative of God upon earth, speaking the words of God and receiving his powers from God. Commanding thus with Divinely conferred power and authority, no one can judge him or rebel against his orders without committing sacrilege.

4. As the representative of God, the Pope's love is universal, making no distinction of people, nation or race, or even of Christian or non-Christian. In the face of the present accumulation of tragedies resulting from the war, the heart of the Pope is deeply affected. But his grief and distress do not take the form of sterile repining but are constantly alive to express themselves in seeking every available means of alleviating the universal suffering and of shortening the period of this terrible fratricidal strife. Those whose privilege it is to be received by him can testify that his affection extends to all his children, without distinction, his only inspiration being the most lofty justice, tempered only by the most discreet prudence and the most delicate circumspection. They can testify, too, that it is only the rash and the foolish who can revolt against him, judge him or condemn him because he does not speak, does not act, does not denounce evil, injustice and iniquity. The Pope is a father with sons equally beloved in both camps. How can his voice imploring peace be heard when the fury of battle is so deafening as to destroy all sense of kindness and humanity? The

Pope...

Pope is a father and he knows that before he speaks, it is his duty to distinguish clearly between justice and injustice and that he cannot in a moment apportion responsibilities, since in human disputes it is so hard, if not impossible, unerringly and wholly to separate the truth from falsehood, justice from violence, good from evil.

5. But while it may seem that the Pope is silent, his silence is fertile; his lively and industrious charity studies means for multiplying relief of that poverty in which the war has involved so many nations. Combatants, prisoners of war, refugees, the interned, the populations of the Occupied Countries, Catholics, Protestants, unbelievers - all, in fact, who are suffering to-day are the subject of his delicate and solicitous care.

6. This last is true, but I do not think that the Cardinal is happy in thus advancing the Pope's undoubtedly earnest and unremitting charity as a sufficient vindication of a silence that is variously misinterpreted as indifference to injustice and suffering or as a tacit condonation of a series of violations of all the accepted principles of morality and humanity. The Pope is undoubtedly suffering under a consciousness of the widespread criticism of his silence and passivity. I have no doubt that he sanctioned, if he did not inspire the Cardinal's apologia. But I fear that the result is unfortunate and I feel that His Eminence would have been better advised to leave the cudgels lying and to have confined his Pastoral to pure theology. There is much to be said in explanation and justification of the Pope's policy; here it is only excused, to its own discredit.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
With the highest respect,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. J. O'Connell.

F.O.
371

[redacted]

SOUTHERN

1941

Vatican

File h: 43

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

30176

1941

R

VATICAN

R 43

2 JAN 1941

2

Registry Number } R 43/43/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See.

No.

Dated -

Received in Registry } 2nd Jan., 1941.

R: Vatican.

Vatican broadcasts.

Transmits copy of programme of foreign news programmes to be broadcast from Vatican City for the months November-January.

Last Paper.

/

References.

R 6841/274/22 1940

(*Minutes.*)

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

8) Miss Benzie (M.o.I.) Jan. 25

WhCA 11/1

Liaison Dept.

? Copy to Miss Benzie, M.O.I.

EWJR. 17/1

PD. 22/1.

(Action completed.)

25/1

(Index.)

Next Paper.

R 1787

30176

20817 F.O.P.

30176

23-1

R 3

R 43

2 JAN 19

1c

With the compliments of

His Majesty's Minister to the

Holy See.

R6841/274/22

Reference. Berne Telegram to Foreign Office No. 523 of July 27th 1940.

ROME.

Re 25/1

RADIO VATICANA HVJ
CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

4
RND.

Programma delle Trasmissioni per il Trimestre novembre-gennaio

Domenica

11,30	10,30	9,30	S. Messa con fervorino in latino, su onda di m. 19,84 e 31,06	

Tutti gli altri giorni

†					
20,00	19,00	18,00		Francese	
20,30	19,30	18.30		Italiano	su onda
20,45	19,45	18,45	in	Tedesco	
21,00	20,00	19,00		Spagnuolo	di m. 48,47
21,15	20,15	19,15		Inglese	

Lunedì	2,00	1,00	24,00		Portoghese (Brasile)	19,84
	2,30	1,30	24,30		Spagnuolo (Amer. Centr.)	19,84
	3,00	2,00	1,00		Spagnuolo (Amer. Sud)	19,84
	3,30	2,30	1,30		Inglese (Amer. Nord)	25,55
	20,15	19,15	18,15		Ucraino	48,47
Martedì	15,30	14,30	13,30		Inglese (Filippine)	19,84
	15,45	14,45	13,45		Spagnuolo (Filippine)	19,84
	17,00	16,00	15,00		Inglese (India)	19,84
	20,15	19,15	18,15		Polacco	48,47
	21,30	20,30	19,30	in	Portoghese	48,47
Mercoledì	19,30	18,30	17,30		Francese (Africa)	19,84
Giovedì	19,45	18,45	17,45		Olandese	48,47
	20,15	19,15	18,15		Ucraino	48,47
Venerdì	2,00	1,00	24,00		Francese (Canadà)	25,55
	2,30	1,30	24,30		Spagnuolo (Amer. Centr.)	19,84
	3,00	2,00	1,00		Spagnuolo (Amer. Sud)	19,84
	3,30	2,30	1,30		Inglese (Amer. Nord)	25,55
	20,15	19,15	18,15		Polacco	48,47
	21,30	20,30	19,30		Portoghese	48,47

su onda di m.

† *La prima colonna dà l'ora legale dell' Italia; la seconda l'ora dell' Europa Centrale; la terza quella di Greenwich.*

12 (Roma) = 11 (C. E. T.) = 10 (Greenwich) = 5 (Nuova York)
19,84 m. = 15,120 Kc.; — 25,55 m. = 11,740 Kc.
31,06 m. = 9,666 Kc.; — 48,47 m. = 6,190 Kc.

F.O.
371

[redacted]

SOUTHERN

1941

Vatican

File No 200

CLOSED
UNTIL
1992

30179

1

R

1941

VATICAN

R 200

3 JAN 1941

2

Registry Number } R 200/200/57.

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Kelly (Berne).

No. 33.

Dated 6th Jan. 1941.

Received in Registry } 8th Jan. 1941.

Vatican
R: ~~GENERAL~~.

Mr. Osborne's Christmas audience of the Pope.

Repeats Vatican telegram No.91 of 25th December, 1940. Pope sends warm greetings to King and Queen. Admires courage and endurance of British people. No reference to the question of the bombing of Rome was made. Pope said that he had condemned the destruction of churches, hospitals and monuments by German bombers in passage of his Christmas address. His attention was drawn to the growing solidarity of the English speaking world against Hitler.

Last Paper.

R 7995/558/22 1940

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Off Sir A. ~~Hardinge~~ O. Sargent
from Sir. ~~A. Cadogan~~
Jan 11

(*Minutes.*)

See within Sir. A. Lascelles to Sir O. Sargent
Jan 12

I submit draft of a letter from Sir A. Cadogan to Sir A. Hardinge with reference to para. 2.

W.E.K. Knight
8/1

IN
8/1

(Action completed.)

DE 14/1

(Index.)

Ind 4/9

Next Paper.

R. 3579

30179

20818 P.O.P.

R

R 200
3 JAN 1941

3

DISTRIBUTION B.

From: SWITZERLAND.

Decypher. Mr. Kelly (Berne). 6th January, 1941.

D. 9.57 p.m. 6th January, 1941.

R. 3.45 a.m. 7th January, 1941.

No. 33.

kkkkkkkkkkkk

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No. 91 of December 25th. Begins.

I had the usual short Christmas audience with the Pope to-day.

2. He asked me to convey warmest greetings to The King and Queen and expressed greatest admiration of the courage and sympathy which they display in sharing the danger to which the British people is exposed. He said that the courage and endurance of the population seemed almost super-human.

3. He thanked me warmly for the British News and other informative material with which I supply him.

4. Neither His Holiness nor I referred to the question of the bombing of Rome.

5. I impressed on him that, in spite of the great provocation of indiscriminate German bombardment of the cities, Royal Air Force restricted their attacks to military objectives. He pointed out that he had condemned the destruction of churches, hospitals and monuments in passage of his Christmas address (see my immediately following telegram).

6. I also drew his attention to the growing solidarity of the English speaking world and all it stood for against Hitler, and the rising tide of resistance to National Socialism and all it imposed in all the occupied countries of Europe.

7. His Holiness was much gratified when I told him that B.B.C. had fully and frequently quoted his address.

DC 14/1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Off. R 200/200/57

WRCK 8/1

Sir A. Cadogan

to

Sir A. Harding

11

4

OUT FILE

11th Jan

Dear Harding

I enclose a copy of a telegram from our Minister at Berne embodying a telegram from D'Arcy Osborne at the Vatican, in para. 2 of which he mentions a request from the Pope to convey to the King and Queen His Holiness' great admiration of their Majesties the courage and sympathy displayed by them in sharing their people's present dangers.

I hardly think it is necessary for Their Majesties to send any reply to this message.

Yours sincerely

O. G. Sargent.

Tranmire 10th
with enclosure
AN
9/1

received in Regy
11/1

Mr Strang
Sir. 9/1.
SN
8/1.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

11th January, 1941.

(R 200/200/57).

5

Dear Hardinge.

I enclose a copy of a telegram from our Minister at Berne embodying a telegram from D'Arcy Osborne at the Vatican, in paragraph 2 of which he mentions a request from the Pope to convey to The King and Queen His Holiness' great admiration of the courage and sympathy displayed by Their Majesties in sharing their people's present dangers.

I hardly think it is necessary for Their Majesties to send any reply to this message.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) O. G. Sargent.

The Right Honourable
Sir Alexander Hardinge, G.C.V.O., K.C.B.

R 200/200/57 N1 57 6

R

Enter

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

12. i. 1941.

W. Ck. asl

My dear Sargent,

In Hardinge's absence, I have laid before The King & Queen your letter of yesterday, covering a copy of Berne Telegram 33, of Jan. 6th. As you say, there does not seem to be any necessity for a reply to this message from the Pope.

Yours sincerely

A. Lascelles.

2

R

1941

VATICAN

R 3579

7 APR 1941

7

Registry Number R. 3579/200/57

FROM Mr. Osborne, Holy See, to Mr. Nichols.

No.

Dated 13th March, 1941.

Received in Registry 7th April, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Anglo-Vatican relations.

Gives details of present conditions in the Vatican and also of the Vatican attitude to Great Britain and its admiration for the way in which she is conducting the war.

Last Paper.

R 200

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
DC 18/4	

Next Paper.

R 3576

(Minutes.)

Some press reports last month showed that there had been leakage in Cairo about the proposal to set up a Free Italian Colony in Cyrenaica and spend money freely on the local population; but there is nothing that we can tell Mr Osborne "for propaganda purposes", least of all at the present time when the country is being reoccupied by the Germans on the Italians' behalf.

W. H. C. Knight 8/4

No: we can't take any propaganda out of this - yet. I showed Colville & Dyer sent a reply to this. JN 10/4.

E Griffith Dyer 8/4 R W Vansittart 8/4 R 11/4

It does not seem to me to contain much calling for

a

a reply, unless we would like to send a message of sympathy about the dog's return?

Anyhow, silence on the subject seems strongly indicated.

Yrs ever
W.H.A. 15/4

Enclr

9

Rec'd April 5.

R 3579
7 APR 1941

Vatican,
March 13th, 1941.

My dear Phil,

This is just a line to let you know that I and the Holy See are still in existence which, for all you hear of their activities, you might doubt. And yet I am so perpetually busy over one little official thing and another that I no longer have any time for the reading of history upon which I embarked when I was first here.

He should be making it rather than reading it!

I am sorry I have failed over the question of the Malta Archbishopric, but trying to make the Vatican do something that they don't want to do and that they think would be ill-advised is (to use a metaphor that came to my mind in the night) like trying to sink a long putt using a live eel as a putter. As a golfer you will realize how difficult it is.

They are full of admiration at the Vatican for the humane and generous way we conduct war, but they say that it was what they expected of us. I mean our treatment of Catholic Missions and prisoners of war as well as our actual conduct of military operations. I have read that we are going to look after, and spend money on, the Italian colonists in Libya. I should be glad of any information I

DC 187 11

could have on this, for propaganda purposes. I think, too, that there is a very general recognition throughout Italy of the decency of our methods, originating in the evidence of the Italian Forces, and this invites comparisons and gives to think.

Since the Germans, Gestapo and all, are in Italy in force there is very bad spy mania and people who have come to see me have got into trouble. So I see few but diplomats now. It is silly and beastly, and so unnecessary. I suspect, too, that they would be delighted to be able somehow to implicate the Vatican.

Our meat and butter rations have been severely cut and I expect that there is more to follow. I rather regret the butter. I don't mind about the meat, though my dog does.

I have been feeling very tired of late, but I have been given a tonic by the Pope's doctor, an admirable man. I hope soon to start a little mild tennis in the evenings with my Polish colleagues.

I won't discuss the war because I am never quite sure of the courier service. Anyway I have nothing sensational to say about it.

I hope you are well. Give Phyllis my best love.

Yours ever D'Arcy

3

1941

R

VATICAN

R 6681

2 JUL 1941

11

Registry Number } R 6681/200/57.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Kelly, Berne.

No. 1448. Cypher.

Dated 30th June, 1941.

Received in Registry } 1st July, 1941.

R: Vatican.

Italian propaganda on German-Soviet War.

Following from Mr. Osborne, (Holy See), telegram No.125 of 23rd June. Expects every endeavour will now be made by Italian Propaganda to exploit the Axis war against Russia as a holy war against Communism. Has sent summary of Prime Minister's speech to the Pope. Requests authorisation to communicate a personal message to Pope or Cardinal Secretary of State making it clear we are in no way associating ourselves with Communist doctrine and pointing out there is little to chose between Nazism and Communism in their attitude towards the Churches.

Last Paper.

R 5579

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Tel. Berne no: 908
Foreign Office no: 93
June 4

(Action completed.) DC 23/7

(Index.) 8no/64

Next Paper.

See minutes. "Times" extract of June 26

Mr. Osborne has acted well in sending the Pope a summary of the Prime Minister's speech, and I see no harm in his being authorized to make the communication he suggests dissociating ourselves from Communism — though this seems hardly necessary — and pointing out that as regards religious persecution there is little to choose between it and Nazism.

I think the B. B. C. have been dealing adequately with the new situation in their broadcasts to Italy, but more might perhaps be done to counter exploitation of ~~the situation~~ it by Farinacci and his like. I believe

Cardinal

19514 7/39 F.O.P.

Cardinal Hinsley has made a short statement and might be prepared to go further.

The M.O.I. will have received copies via the distrib.n

W.L.C.Knight

2/7.

~~Kirkpatrick~~

~~Mr. Russell for any obs.~~

Material for the message to the Pope or the Cardinal Secretary of State has already been supplied in our telegram to Berne No. 871. Mr. Osborne might be authorised to pass this on as from the Secretary of State and add a sentence from the Secretary of State's speech in the House on June 24th.

Draft telegram to Berne attached.

(& attached

AWG.Randall

3rd July, 1941.

3/7.

WRCK 23/7.

R

13

[Cypher] GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

FROM: SWITZERLAND.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

R 6681
2 JUL 1941

Mr. Kelly.
No.1448.
30th June, 1941.

D. 9.00 p.m. 30th June, 1941.
R.12.15 a.m. 1st July, 1941.

c c c

Following from Mr. Osborne telegram No.125, June 23rd.

[Begins]

I expect that every endeavour will now be made by Italian propaganda and particularly by Farinaci who has of late been persistent and violent in his criticism [group undec.] as allied with the influence and trends in the Vatican, to exploit the Axis war against Russia as a holy war against Communism. I doubt whether this will deceive anybody but it would be well to lose no occasion of emphasizing the clear distinction made in Prime Minister's speech yesterday between Communism and the Russian [?people]. I have already sent full summary of this speech to the Pope and will advertise this point as far as possible. You might perhaps authorise me to communicate a personal message to the Pope or Cardinal Secretary of State making it clear that we are in no way associating ourselves with Communist doctrine and pointing out that in any case there is little to choose between Nazism and Communism in their attitude towards the churches. Any similar intimate paper to them on the same lines would be useful.

JUL
F.O. REGISTRY

Registry No.R 6681/300/57.

A.W.G.R.

Draft.

Berne.

Telegram. 1D

No. 908

July 8

Cypher & en clair.

W.M.L.

General Dist.

Southern Dept.
Northern "

GFAS 3/7

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

14

OUT FILE

Despatched 6-10 *M.* 4/7

[Cypher begins]

Your telegram No. 1448.

ao Fel No 93.

Please pass following to Mr. Osborne in reply to his telegram No. 125.

You may give Cardinal Secretary of State memorandum based on my telegram No. 89 of June 27th, and add the following quotation from my speech in Parliament on June 24th. [Cypher ends. En clair begins] A The attack on the Soviet Union in defiance of solemn and repeated pledges, has given mankind the final proof, if further proof was needed, of the world-wide scope of the Nazi lust for power.....No Nazi posturing can now deceive the world. All must realize that, whatever their system of government, wherever their geographical position, the great and immediate danger to their security is the existence in the world of the Nazi system, fo[illegible] for whatever other considerations may be in[illegible]ver balance that is the greatest.

This country has probably fewer Communists than any nation in Europe. We have always hated the creed, but that is not the issue. Russia has been invaded, wantonly, treacherously, without warning. Not even the Germans have seriously pretended provocation. Russians to-day are fighting for their soil. They are fighting the man who seeks to dominate the world. This is also our sole task. Confronted with this latest aggression, it is our determination not/

9407 SN 3/7

not to relax but to intensify our efforts. B (Ends.)

DS Griggs

15

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

R6681/300/57. OUT FILE

[CYPHER AND EN CLAIR].

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION.

To: SWITZERLAND.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BERNE.

No. 908.
July 3rd, 1941. D. 6.30 p.m. July 4th, 1941.

yyyyyy

Your telegram No. 1448.

Please pass following to Mr. Osborne as telegram No. 93 in reply to his telegram No. 125.

You may give Cardinal Secretary of State memorandum based on my telegram No. 89 of June 27th and add the following quotation from my speech in Parliament on June 24th. [En clair begins]. The attack on the Soviet Union in defiance of solemn and repeated pledges, has given mankind the final proof, if further proof was needed, of the world-wide scope of the Nazi lust for power ..... No. Nazi posturing can now deceive the world. All must realise that, whatever their system of government, wherever their geographical position, the great and immediate danger to their security is the existence in the world of the Nazi system, for whatever other considerations may be in balance that is the greatest.

This country has probably fewer Communists than any nation in Europe. We have always hated the creed, but that is not the issue. Russia has been invaded, wantonly, treacherously, without warning. Not even the Germans have seriously pretended provocation. Russians to-day are fighting for their soil. They are fighting the man who seeks to dominate the world. This is also our sole task. Confronted with this latest aggression, it is our determination not to relax but to intensify our efforts. (Ends).

"The Times."

25.6.41.

17

END.

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA

MR. EDEN ON GERMAN AMBITION

On the motion for the adjournment,

Mr. EDEN, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Warwick and Leamington, U.), said:—The Prime Minister, on Sunday night, told the world, after his own unrivalled fashion, of the decision at which his Majesty's Government had arrived as a consequence of the German invasion of Soviet Russia. To-day, I would wish to give the House a brief account of the diplomatic events which preceded that giant act of aggression and of the development which followed upon it.

The House and the country will, I think, desire to take a severely practical view of these matters. We keep our eye on the target. That target is Hitler's Germany. Let us pay him the compliment of understanding that he, too, keeps his eye on the target, and that target is the British Empire, which he rightly regards as the chief obstacle in his path to world dominion.

The invasion of Soviet Russia is not an end, but a means. Through his attack on Russia, Hitler hopes to break the military power of that vast State, and thus to free himself from any contemporary or subsequent Eastern anxiety when he turns to his duel with our own land. We are back to the German policy set out in "Mein Kampf," and despite the sudden revulsions of Hitler's diplomacy, we have in truth never strayed far from it.

Let mankind never for a moment forget the dominating theme of that turgid revelation of boundless ambition to world

I explain that to the House in order that they may see how completely devoid of any foundation in fact is Ribbentrop's statement published to the world.

WARNING OF PERIL

TRIBUTE TO SIR S. CRIPPS

There is another aspect of the matter on which I would give the House some information. The Prime Minister has told the world how some time ago he warned the head of the Russian State of the peril which he rightly saw was impending. That is not quite all. Some time before the events of the last few days we at the Foreign Office were already convinced from the information at our disposal that Hitler, true to his usual technique, was going to attack Russia from behind the smokescreen of his non-aggression pact. With my right hon. friend's consent I accordingly asked the Soviet Ambassador to come to see me, and I told him of the information at our disposal and of the danger which I was convinced confronted his country. I gave him at his request details of that information, as we thought we were bound to do.

Even at that late hour the Soviet Government were careful to avoid any expression of opinion which might seem to throw doubt on their own observance of their engagement with Germany. That was some weeks ago. It was this assessment of impending events that caused me to ask his Majesty's Ambassador at Moscow to return to this country for consultation. I felt that his experience and his advice would be invaluable to us at such a time, and so it has proved.

The House and the country are deeply indebted to Sir S. Cripps for work done under conditions of the utmost difficulty. (Cheers.) For the reasons I have given he was unable to conclude any of those pacts or agreements which were once so dear to the diplomatist's heart, although to-day they enjoy but a brief, butterfly life. Yet it is clear that by his influence and by his example my right hon. friend has shown to the Soviet Union the fundamental desire of his Majesty's Government to maintain our relations upon a normal footing. When he returns to his post he will be able with his marked ability to advise and direct the help which it is the declared intention of his Majesty's Government to give to the Soviet Union at the present time. (Hear, hear.)

TALKS WITH THE SOVIET

As the outcome of the events of the last few days conversations have, of course, been proceeding between the Russian Government and ourselves. The House will, of course, appreciate that I am not able to reveal the full results of those discussions, but I can tell the House that I have now heard from his Excellency the Soviet Ambassador that his Government have accepted our offer to send military and economic missions to Russia to coordinate our efforts in what is now beyond doubt the common task, the defeat of Germany. The Soviet Government have made it plain to us that in the period of military collaboration which now lies ahead help will be upon a mutual and a reciprocal basis. His Majesty's Government accept and endorse that view.

This latest demonstration of German perfidy, the attack on the Soviet Union in defiance of solemn and repeated pledges, has given mankind the final proof, if further proof was needed, of the world-wide scope of the Nazi lust for power. Hitler has shown himself once again a cynical traitor to his own pledged word—a pact one day and aggression the next, soothing words in the winter, bombs and tanks in the spring. Those are the methods by which he seeks to subdue all nations great and small in the pursuit of world dominion.

No Nazi posturing can now deceive the world. (Cheers.) All must realize that, whatever their system of government, wherever their geographical position, the great and immediate danger to their security is the existence in the world of the Nazi system, for whatever other considerations may be in balance that is the greatest. (Cheers.)

OUR PLEDGE TO POLAND

This country has probably fewer Communists than any nation in Europe. (Cheers and laughter.) We have always hated the creed, but that is not the issue. Russia has been invaded, wantonly, treacherously, without warning. Not even the Germans have seriously pretended provocation. Russians to-day are fighting for their soil. They are fighting the man who seeks to dominate the world. This is also our sole task. Confronted with this latest aggression, it is our determination not to relax but to intensify our efforts.

Napoleon, if I remember aright, once said: "I have always marched with 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 men." We are marching to-day, after Hitler's last act of aggression, with the opinions of hundreds of millions of men.

There is one reference I would ask the House to let me make. At a time like this our thoughts go out with heartfelt sympathy to our Polish ally. Once again their soil is a battlefield. Once again their people suffer for no fault of their own. The Polish people have had a hard history. By their courage in a time of unparalleled ordeal they have earned and they will redeem their freedom. That remains our pledge.

again—the destruction of Hitler and the Nazi régime—in that task we will not falter until the final victory is won. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

GOVERNMENT POLICY APPROVED

Mr. LEES-SMITH (Keighley, Lab.) said that the Prime Minister's broadcast on Sunday evening was a decisive act of leadership at a critical moment. If Hitler imagined by his latest action that he would be regarded by any party or any quarter in this country or the United States as a crusader against Communism he under-estimated our intelligence. His most implacable hatred, we knew, was reserved for the democratic system in Britain and America. Hitler's attack upon Russia was part of a joint plan for the attack upon Russia and this country together. A year ago this country stood first on the list, but as the result of the defeat of Germany in the Battle of Britain the order had now been changed and Hitler realized that, owing to the increased forces in this country since last year, he must defeat Russia before making a final assault upon us.

We must help Russia by attacks on Germany from the air and every possible means. It already seemed plain that Germany, whatever the military situation, could never conquer Russia if Russia had to-day the same spirit which enabled her to overcome Napoleon. (Cheers.)

CALL FOR GREATER EFFORT

SIR P. HARRIS (Bethnal Green, S.W., L.) said that he and his colleagues endorsed the policy of the Government. On Sunday they had to come to a rapid and definite decision and that decision was expressed in a masterly speech by the Prime Minister.

He (Sir P. Harris) was glad that Mr. Eden had insisted upon the strategic importance of the position. Nothing could be farther from the truth than to imagine that the danger to ourselves was lessened. It was essential for this country to intensify its efforts both in the production of munitions and the organization of the war. (Cheers.)

Mr. HORE-BELISHA (Plymouth, Devonport, L.Nat.) endorsed the policy of the Government and welcomed the great promptitude and vigour with which the Prime Minister announced it. This latest development of German treachery could be regarded with qualified satisfaction. It brought us the immediate advantage of an even more united nation, the efforts of Germany against us were momentarily distracted, and, whatever the outcome of the conflict, there must be a great consumption of German war material.

But we should do all in our power to assist Turkey, which was in a key position, because without such assistance we could not effectively assist Russia. Moreover, unless we gave effective aid to Turkey there was no doubt that that country would be used as an avenue for the achievement of German ambitions in Asia and for attacking our Arab interests and Egyptian positions.

There were means of sustaining Turkey; one would be by expediting the conclusion of the Syrian campaign, and another by improving our methods of political warfare.

We ought not to give Turkey up for lost. By vigorous action we could sustain her, and Turkey did occupy the key position in this struggle. It was urgent to take measures in the military sphere that would reassure her. It was also urgent to take measures in the industrial sphere to accentuate our war effort if we were to profit by the lapse of time that must occur before the Germans could achieve success in Russia.

We must realize the subtlety of the Hitlerian move. It did carry the support of other countries by its specious appeal—Marshal Pétain, the sole basis of whose doctrine was anti-Communism; and Franco; and it enabled Rumania to retrieve what she had lost by her concessions to Germany. But all these were long-term matters. We had, as a result of this act of treachery, a great opportunity, and he only prayed that his Majesty's Government would seize it to the full. (Hear, hear.)

MR. EDEN ON GERMAN AMBITION

On the motion for the adjournment,

Mr. EDEN, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Warwick and Leamington, U.), said:—The Prime Minister, on Sunday night, told the world, after his own unrivalled fashion, of the decision at which his Majesty's Government had arrived as a consequence of the German invasion of Soviet Russia. To-day, I would wish to give the House a brief account of the diplomatic events which preceded that giant act of aggression and of the development which followed upon it.

The House and the country will, I think, desire to take a severely practical view of these matters. We keep our eye on the target. That target is Hitler's Germany. Let us pay him the compliment of understanding that he, too, keeps his eye on the target, and that target is the British Empire, which he rightly regards as the chief obstacle in his path to world dominion.

The invasion of Soviet Russia is not an end, but a means. Through his attack on Russia, Hitler hopes to break the military power of that vast State, and thus to free himself from any contemporary or subsequent Eastern anxiety when he turns to his duel with our own land. We are back to the German policy set out in "Mein Kampf," and despite the sudden revulsions of Hitler's diplomacy, we have in truth never strayed far from it.

Let mankind never for a moment forget the dominating theme of that turgid revelation of boundless ambition to world dominion. All treaties, all pacts, all agreements are for Hitler but the chloroform to new aggression.

NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Here, in the difficult and dangerous political and diplomatic situation which exists to-day, it would clearly serve no useful purpose to enter into a prolonged analysis of the vicissitudes of Anglo-Soviet relations, but I would recall this fact, which seems to me a cardinal truth in assessing them. In 1935 we agreed in Moscow with the Soviet Government on a statement which declared, among other things, that there was no conflict of interest between the two Governments on any of the main issues of international policy. I have always believed that those words expressed a plain statement of fact, and that the relations of our two countries would benefit from their mutual acceptance, and though since 1935 the relations of our two countries have undergone many a modification, they remain as true to-day as when they were agreed upon between us

The political systems of our two countries are antipathetic. Our ways of life are widely divergent, but these cannot and must not for a moment obscure the reality of the political issue which confronts us to-day.

Germany has perpetrated upon Russia an act of studied and deliberate aggression. Two years ago Germany and Russia signed a pact of non-aggression. At no time since the signature of that pact has Germany complained of its performance. At the hour when Germany, without warning, struck her blow, no representations had been made and no discussions of any kind were in progress.

RIBBENTROP'S FALSEHOODS

Here I would ask the House to let me deal for a moment with the latest of the false statements of the German Foreign Secretary, Herr von Ribbentrop. I must quote what he said:—

> While German troops were concentrating on Bulgarian and Rumanian territory against the increasing landings of British troops in Greece, the Soviet Union tried, now already in a clear agreement with England, to stab Germany in the back by firstly supporting Yugoslavia openly politically, and in secret militarily, by trying, secondly, to influence Turkey by giving her a covering guarantee to adopt an aggressive attitude against Bulgaria and Germany.

These are Hitler's words, and in face of that I must make it plain that much as we in his Majesty's Government and this House would have welcomed an agreement with the Soviet Union in order to maintain the solidarity of the Balkan people before they were overrun by Germany, an opportunity for such an agreement unfortunately never presented itself. There was never any sort or kind of agreement with the Soviet Union in this matter, and I will tell the House the reason.

At every phase in the recent history in the development of Anglo-Soviet relations we were always retarded by the attention paid by the Soviet Union to the observance of their pact with Germany. Time and again we reviewed the possibility of clearing the path of Anglo-Soviet cooperation of any obstacles which we could, but on every occasion, every time investigation was made, whether the matters were trade or whether they were political, it became clear to us that the Soviet Government were not prepared to negotiate in view of their anxiety not to introduce any embarrassment into their relations with Germany.

Our attitude was equally clear. We on our side never had any intention to conclude any arrangement with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics except on a basis of mutual interest and satisfaction; in fact, on a basis of reciprocity. In the light of the Soviet Union's pact with Germany no such basis existed. [illegible] in the pursuit of world dominion.

No Nazi posturing can now deceive the world. (Cheers.) All must realize that, whatever their system of government, wherever their geographical position, the great and immediate danger to their security is the existence in the world of the Nazi system, for whatever other considerations may be in balance that is the greatest. (Cheers.)

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FRIENDSHIP WITH TURKEY

Turkey has declared her neutrality in this conflict. From the date of the signature of our treaty of mutual assistance in October, 1939, our relations with Turkey have been on a very special basis. Turkey is our friend and ally. The Turkish Government have kept us fully informed of the progress of their recent negotiations with the German Government. The conclusion of that agreement, therefore, came as no surprise to his Majesty's Government.

But I make no mystery of the matter. We should naturally have preferred that no such treaty had been concluded; none the less, the preamble of the treaty expressly safeguards the existing contractual engagements of each party. The Turkish Government have repeatedly made it plain to us that first and foremost among these engagements stands the Anglo-Turkish Treaty, and they have specifically assured our Ambassador since the conclusion of the agreement, and once again within the last 24 hours, that our treaty stands intact.

FINLAND'S DEFENSIVE ATTITUDE

IMMENSE AID FOR BRITAIN FROM U.S.

I must say a word on the events on the northern flank of the new war. The Finnish Minister asked to see me yesterday, and he gave me a message from his Government. He assured me that Finland's attitude was, and would continue to be, a purely defensive one in the present conflict. There was, he told me, no change in the diplomatic relations between the Soviet Government and Finland. It was the hope of his Government that his country would not become involved in the conflict. I told Mr. Gripenberg that I had taken note of his assurance, and that I was quite confident that the course which his Government had announced their desire to follow was the right and only course for Finland. (Hear, hear.)

I cannot conclude this brief survey of the events of the last few days and hours without referring to, and offering on behalf of all members of this House, a word of hearty welcome to his Excellency the United States Ambassador, who has returned to our shores. He has come back to us, as I can testify from conversations with him, refreshed by his brief sojourn in his own country, reinspired by his contacts with his President and his countrymen, and stimulated by what he has seen of the immense effort being made in the United States. The past few days, indeed the past few hours, have brought fresh indication, fresh assurances, of the continued and increasing support of our American friends—support both material and moral, the volume of which will overwhelm Nazi resistance and crush Nazi power.

The House will, I hope, have read the declaration by Mr. Sumner Welles which appears in the Press this morning. On behalf of the Government we heartily endorse his statement that any defence against Hitlerism, from whatever source, will hasten the eventual downfall of the present German leader. Mr. Winant has brought us, too, the renewed expression of the determination of his great country to aid us in the task to which we as a nation are dedicated. The one aim, the one irrevocable purpose to which the Prime Minister only two nights ago pledged us once

[illegible] countries by its specious appeal—Marshal Pétain, the sole basis of whose doctrine was anti-Communism; and Franco; and it enabled Rumania to retrieve what she had lost by her concessions to Germany. But all these were long-term matters. We had, as a result of this act of treachery, a great opportunity, and he only prayed that his Majesty's Government would seize it to the full. (Hear, hear.)

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18 MAR 1941

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Dated 19th Feb. 1941

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Annual Report on the activities of the Holy See.

Transmits a copy of the report covering the period December 1939 - December 1940.

Last Paper.

References.

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Unusual for record, as Mr. Osborne says.

WCK 21/3.

Central Dept. may care to see.

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Next Paper.

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British Legation to the Holy See, 3

VATICAN CITY.

No. 8. February 19th 1941.

(9/13/41)

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a sort of Annual Report on the activities of the Holy See during the past year which, for the second year running, has been produced and distributed by the Secretariat of State. Both the cover and the prefatory notice proclaim that the publication is unofficial, but it nevertheless contains a good deal of information useful for record.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

With the highest respect,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. G. Osborne

R 2632
18 MAR 1941

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The Right Honourable,

Anthony Eden, M.P., M.C.,

Etc., etc., etc.

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L'attività della S. Sede

DAL 15 DICEMBRE 1939 AL 15 DICEMBRE 1940

(NON UFFICIALE)

TIPOGRAFIA POLIGLOTTA VATICANA - 1941

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L'ATTIVITÀ DELLA SANTA SEDE

DAL 15 DICEMBRE 1939

AL 15 DICEMBRE 1940

(NON UFFICIALE)

TIPOGRAFIA POLIGLOTTA VATICANA

1941

Anche quest'anno abbiamo voluto stendere questo breve sommario delle attività pontificie particolarmente degne di nota, perchè alle ragioni che consigliarono la precedente rassegna si è aggiunto il favore con il quale essa fu accolta negli ambienti interessati.

Per quanto possa sembrare superfluo, ricordiamo che l'opuscolo non ha alcun carattere ufficiale ed è ben lungi dall'avere quella completezza che lo scopo della pubblicazione non esige e lo spazio non consente. Tuttavia, ci lusinghiamo che anche questa volta esso assolva il suo semplice compito informativo sulla vasta e indefessa opera di bene del Santo Padre e della Santa Sede durante gli eccezionali avvenimenti di questi mesi di guerra.

L'ATTIVITÀ DELLA SANTA SEDE

DAL 15 DICEMBRE 1939 AL 15 DICEMBRE 1940

(NON UFFICIALE)

L'OPERA DEL SANTO PADRE

La precedente relazione, chiusa alla metà del dicembre 1939, rifletteva dolorosamente la grave situazione internazionale e quindi gli avvenimenti bellici, che turbarono la pace non solo d'Europa, ma di tutto il mondo; tremendo periodo durante il quale Sua Santità Pio XII, da poco eletto alla Sede di Pietro, non tralasciò occasione, come Vicario del Principe della Pace, per tentare d'impedire o almeno di lenire i sanguinosi conflitti, intervenendo anche pubblicamente con parole di deplorazione, di monito, di consiglio, di preghiera e conforto.

Perdurando e dilatandosi invece la guerra con un continuo aggravamento delle condizioni generali dei popoli, la vigilanza assidua del Sommo Pontefice s'è fatta, se possibile, ancor più intensa, così da divenire, evidentemente, la parte più preoccupante e più penosa del suo Pontificato, come si può vedere dalla presente sommaria rievocazione della Sua paterna attività.

Rispondendo agli auguri del Sacro Collegio, il 24 dicembre 1939, Sua Santità con un lungo, programmatico discorso, indicava i punti fondamentali per la pacifica convivenza dei popoli: il diritto delle Nazioni alla vita, il disarmo, istituzioni custodi e garanti dei trattati, equo accoglimento delle giuste

richieste dei popoli, intimo senso delle responsabilità nei governanti. Le parole pontificie ebbero larghissima eco di universali consensi in tutto il mondo.

Negli stessi giorni il Santo Padre inviava al Vicario Apostolico della Finlandia una generosa offerta per i cattolici finlandesi vittime della guerra e bisognosi d'aiuto.

Nell'udienza concessa l'8 gennaio 1940 ai Signori ed alle Dame del Patriziato e della Nobiltà romana, Pio XII apriva il Suo animo contristato, e diceva: « Erra, solitaria per vie deserte, nell'ombra di nubilosa speranza, timida la pace; e sulle sue tracce e sui suoi passi, nel mondo antico e nuovo, uomini a lei amici, la vanno cercando, preoccupati e pensosi di ricondurla in mezzo agli uomini per vie giuste e solide e durevoli, e di preparare, in uno sforzo fraterno d'intesa, l'arduo compito delle necessarie ricostruzioni ».

Così pure, il 15 dello stesso mese, alla Rappresentanza del Sovrano Militare Ordine Gerosolimitano di Malta, accennando all'opera benefica dell'Ordine stesso, che richiama la parabola del buon samaritano: « A Noi sembra, diceva, che anche oggi l'umanità giaccia distesa palpitante, sul cammino dei tempi. Mentre discendeva stoltamente da Gerusalemme a Gerico, dalla città della preghiera a quella dei piaceri, dalle regioni dell'ideale a quelle del lucro, è caduta nelle mani dei ladroni, che si chiamano l'orgoglio, la incredulità, l'ambizione, la violenza, la slealtà, l'odio. Essi l'hanno spogliata delle sue ricchezze, dei più alti valori morali che rendono l'uomo degno e santamente fiero: la fede in Dio, la fraternità, la mutua fiducia; le hanno rapito violentemente un prezioso tesoro: la pace ».

Ai diletti figli della Nuova Zelanda il Sommo Pastore rivolgeva, il 1° febbraio, un radiomessaggio in lingua inglese per l'apertura del I Congresso eucaristico nazionale celebratosi a Wellington in memoria del primo centenario della vita cattolica

in quel lontano Paese, rallegrandosi per il consolante sviluppo della Chiesa ivi avvenuto dopo lo sbarco del Vescovo Pompallier, cent'anni or sono, sulle rive dello Hokianga.

Per l'anniversario della morte del Suo glorioso Predecessore Pio XI, Sua Santità scendeva il 10 febbraio nella Basilica Vaticana per assistere alla solenne Messa funebre celebrata dal Card. Nasalli Rocca, Arcivescovo di Bologna, ed il giorno dopo, nell'udienza concessa ai numerosi pellegrini milanesi, esaltava la figura di Colui che, prima di salire alla Cattedra di Pietro, era stato il Pastore della Chiesa ambrosiana.

« Volle nelle anime, — diceva tra l'altro il Santo Padre, — la pace di Cristo, la pace lasciataci da Cristo; la volle tra i dotti e i semplici, fra la scienza e la fede, fra il capitale e il lavoro, fra l'abbondanza e il bisogno, fra la ricchezza e la povertà, fra la politica e la morale, fra i potenti e i deboli, fra i persecutori e gli oppressi, fra l'Oriente e l'Occidente. Se trovò ostacoli nel cammino, non disperò; attese, come nel buio crepuscolo delle sue salite alpine, che l'alba nascesse propizia a lui o a chi lo seguirebbe ».

Alla Missione militare argentina, ricevuta il 15 febbraio, rivolgeva un'esortazione in lingua spagnuola, raccomandando specialmente il buon esempio di una vita praticamente religiosa: il miglior servizio, diceva, che i superiori militari possano prestare alla patria e al popolo.

Un'altra volta scendeva il Papa in S. Pietro il 3 marzo per celebrare la s. Messa alla presenza delle rappresentanze delle parrocchie di Roma. Alla folla immensa rivolse una commovente omelia, commentando, tra l'altro, le parole di s. Paolo ai Galati (IV, 22-31) per ricordare la dignità della persona umana e soprattutto dell'anima cristiana lavata dal Sangue redentore. L'omelia terminava con un'accesa invocazione a Gesù Re dei re e Signore dei dominanti: « Fate che gli uomini sentano che siete la luce del mondo e tornino a Voi; che posino

le armi ai vostri Piedi; che sull'ara di una pace cristiana, ignara alle legioni dei Cesari pagani, le discordi menti e volontà di coloro, che sono arbitri dei destini delle nazioni, con vicendevole fiducia e con nobile sincerità, offrano a Voi, Dio autore e amatore di pace, quale magnanima vittoria sulle passioni, l'auspicato sacrificio dell'oblìo di ogni offesa, restaurando nella giustizia e nell'amore l'onore e la concordia dei popoli ».

Tali sentimenti, con altre parole, esprimeva il giorno seguente ai Vescovi romeni ricevuti in udienza con numerosi ecclesiastici e laici della stessa Nazione, pellegrini o dimoranti a Roma: « La pace! esclamava Sua Santità; questa parola compendia i voti che noi formiamo per voi; ma le circostanze attuali le dànno, in un mondo che la guerra lacera coi suoi orrori o conquassa colle sue ripercussioni, un significato particolarmente commovente ».

Un altro discorso rivolgeva il Santo Padre alla Missione navale spagnuola il 6 marzo, dicendo fra l'altro: « Al lado de este recuerdo (la scoperta dell'America) de hechos gloriosos ya lejanos, otro más próximo evocan en Nos vuestras personas: el de las gestas heroicas y enormes sacrificios, con que recientemente habéis logrado vosotros defender, del grave peligro que lo amenazaba, el patrimonio sacrosanto de vuestra piedad y creencias católicas ».

Il giorno dopo il Sommo Pontefice celebrava il Concistoro segreto per la provvista di Chiese e per la postulazione e concessione dei Sacri Pallii, seguìto immediatamente dal Concistoro pubblico per la Canonizzazione delle Beate Maria di S. Eufrasia Pelletier e Gemma Galgani. Nel discorso latino, letto, come d'uso, dal Segretario dei Brevi ai Principi a nome di Sua Santità, si accennava agli avvenimenti bellici che conturbano il mondo, esprimendo la speranza che, anche per l'intercessione delle due Beate presto circonfuse di nuova gloria,

Dio volesse affrettare la fine di tanti flagelli e ricondurre tempi migliori.

Nel primo anniversario della Sua felice incoronazione, 12 marzo, Pio XII assisteva nella Basilica Vaticana al solenne Pontificale celebrato dal Card. Granito Pignatelli di Belmonte, Decano del S. Collegio. Dopo le funzioni, lo stesso Cardinale rivolgeva, inatteso, un devoto indirizzo a Sua Santità, Che tosto rispondeva, dicendo tra l'altro: « Da questo colle Noi contempliamo il mondo in tempesta. Se intorno a Noi, per favore di Dio, è pace, di là dalle Alpi, dai mari e dagli oceani sono venti e turbini; e con cento voci religione e umanità invocano e chiedono pace. La speranza e la fiducia Nostra sono riposte in Dio, nelle cui mani sono i cuori degli uomini, non meno che le tempeste della terra, del cielo e dei mari ».

L'anniversario pontificio, poi, era allietato dall'universale omaggio tributato al Papa da parte dei Capi di Stato, dei Governi, dell'Episcopato, del clero e delle popolazioni.

Un nuovo accorato accenno alle odierne tristi condizioni del mondo fece il Santo Padre il 13 marzo in un discorso alle Dame romane della Compagnia della Carità di S. Vincenzo de' Paoli: « Minacciata da un nuovo diluvio l'umanità attende ansiosa che torni a lei la colomba, annunziatrice dell'iride di pace. Ma l'alata messaggera non porterà la pace universale agli individui e alle nazioni, che se potrà cogliere di nuovo sulla terra il verde ramo d'olivo, l'albero delle unzioni lenitive, che vuole, per crescere e portare i suoi frutti, il sole della carità ».

A Pasqua, 24 marzo, il Sommo Pontefice celebrava il Pontificale in S. Pietro, deplorando nell'omelia le stragi e le rovine della guerra, nonchè le violazioni del diritto che dovrebbe reggere le relazioni fra i popoli civili. Dopo le funzioni, dava

la Benedizione « Urbi et orbi » dalla loggia esterna della Basilica, davanti ad una folla immensa.

Altra solenne occasione per manifestare i Suoi paterni sentimenti si offerse a Sua Santità quando, il 5 maggio, accompagnato per tutto il percorso dalle entusiastiche acclamazioni della folla si recò alla chiesa di S. Maria sopra Minerva per la cappella papale celebrata in onore di S. Francesco d'Assisi e S. Caterina da Siena, da Lui proclamati Patroni Primari d'Italia. Al termine del Pontificale, celebrato dall'Emo Cardinale Titolare, Eugenio Tisserant, Sua Santità tenne dal pulpito un discorso in onore dei due Santi, implorando da Gesù, Re dei secoli, la pace desiderata con queste parole: « Quella pace che voi lasciaste ai vostri Apostoli e Noi invochiamo per tutti gli uomini, quella pace ritorni in mezzo ai popoli e alle nazioni, che l'oblìo del vostro amore separa, che il rancore avvelena, che la vendetta accende ».

Similmente il 2 giugno, rispondendo agli auguri del Sacro Collegio per il Suo onomastico, pronunciava un lungo discorso tutto ispirato dal desiderio di mitigare gli orrori della guerra ed affrettare « una pace santa, sigillata non dall'odio e dalla vendetta, ma dalla nobile maestà della giustizia »; volgeva quindi il sollecito pensiero alla sorte dei Paesi occupati, invocando per essi un regolamento « conforme non meno alla coscienza umana e cristiana che alla vera sapienza di Stato: il rispetto della vita, dell'onore e della proprietà dei cittadini, il rispetto della famiglia e dei suoi diritti; e, dal lato religioso, la libertà dell'esercizio privato e pubblico del culto divino e dell'assistenza spirituale in una maniera conveniente al rispettivo popolo e alla sua lingua, la libertà dell'istruzione ed educazione religiosa, la sicurezza dei beni ecclesiastici, la facoltà ai Vescovi di corrispondere col loro clero e coi loro fedeli nelle cose concernenti la cura delle anime ».

Intanto, accompagnando alle parole l'azione, il Santo Padre

faceva pervenire ai profughi romeni provenienti dalla Bessarabia e dalla Bucovina, in seguito all'occupazione di quelle provincie da parte delle truppe russe, congrui sussidi, dando nuova prova della vivissima, paterna sollecitudine con cui si era già adoperato a lenire le sofferenze dei profughi polacchi rifugiatisi in Romania.

Appena infatti l'Eccmo Mons. Cortesi, Nunzio Apostolico, seguendo il Governo polacco, si trasferì in Romania dove riparavano moltissimi fuggitivi, venne incaricato dal Santo Padre dell'opera di assistenza in favore dei profughi. Disponendo dei larghi sussidi inviatigli da Sua Santità e degli aiuti offertigli, non solo da cattolici romeni, ma anche da altri paesi, distribuì soccorsi in danaro, derrate e medicinali. Sistematisi a poco a poco i profughi, provvide a organizzare nei vari centri l'assistenza spirituale, visitando personalmente i gruppi principali per rendersi conto delle loro necessità. La sua opera, facilitata dal Governo romeno, trovò larga collaborazione da parte dell'Episcopato e del clero di Romania.

Sull'opera della Santa Sede durante la guerra in una nota dell'*Osservatore Romano* del 19 luglio si legge:

L'attività della Santa Sede per lenire le eccezionali sofferenze e per portare aiuto ai grandi bisogni, che derivano dalle attuali circostanze, procede sempre con premurosa solerzia e con alto spirito di carità e di generosità. Si continua, infatti, a cercare di far giungere soccorsi ai polacchi, specialmente là ove le necessità sono più impellenti e più gravi i dolori da confortare e le miserie da sanare. Anche recentemente il Santo Padre, proseguendo la Sua paterna opera di assistenza spirituale e materiale verso i più provati dalle sventure e dalle privazioni, ha fatto pervenire una cospicua elargizione per i profughi polacchi in Italia ed un'altra, pure molto generosa, per i profughi della Polonia che si trovano nel Portogallo. Nè

minor cura è stata rivolta ai profughi e ai bisognosi provati dalla guerra in altri paesi.

« Attesa la presente situazione, Sua Santità, come è ormai noto, non intende assentarsi da Roma. Egli vuole anche così offrire il conforto della Sua presenza continua ai Suoi figli più vicini della Sua diocesi, di Roma, oggetto sempre delle più premurose cure e della più profonda sollecitudine del Vicario di Cristo. Anche per ciò che riguarda le eccezionali circostanze derivanti dalla guerra, il Santo Padre, a suo tempo, fece dei passi presso i Governi di Londra e di Parigi — come è stato detto da diversi giornali — affinchè fosse risparmiata dai bombardamenti. A tale proposito il giornale *La Liberté* di Friburgo, riferendosi ad una notizia di una agenzia americana circa il supposto contenuto di una comunicazione inglese che, a questo riguardo, sarebbe stata fatta alla Santa Sede, scrive che il Pontefice non avrebbe ricevuto alcuna risposta. Si sa, invece, che, tanto il Governo inglese, quanto quello francese, hanno risposto ai passi del Santo Padre ».

Parlando il 7 agosto, nella consueta udienza pubblica del mercoledì, sui pericoli della cattiva stampa, deplorava che « una certa stampa sembra essersi prefisso il compito di distruggere, nella grande famiglia dei popoli, le relazioni fraterne tra i figli dello stesso Padre celeste », affermando, poi, che « la letteratura menzognera può divenire non meno micidiale che i carri blindati e gli aeroplani da bombardamento ».

Al nuovo Ambasciatore della Bolivia, che Gli presentava, il 10 agosto, le Credenziali, diceva: « En todo tiempo la Cátedra de Pedro se ha esforzado por lograr que en esos supremos criterios de verdadera fraternidad humana buscaran los hombres desapasionadamente noble solución a los problemas que los dividen. Y Nos, sintiendo en estos momentos toda la gravedad del peso de Nuestro deber, declaramos, que no cesaremos

de amonestar a lo mismo con paternal insistencia a todos y en especial a los que llevan sobre sus hombres la tremenda responsabilidad del porvenir de las Naciones ».

Sulle stesse preoccupazioni tornava il 1° ottobre, ricevendo i componenti della Sacra Romana Rota per l'inizio dell'anno giuridico.

Dopo essersi compiaciuto per l'attività del Tribunale che « ha la gloria di essere il Tribunale della famiglia cristiana, umile o alta, ricca o povera » e rilevato che « lo studio rotale e le aule del Tribunale della Rota assurgono ad alta scuola di procedura e di discussione giuridica per il numero sempre crescente di sacerdoti, di religiosi e laici di ogni regione e lingua dell'universo cattolico che vi convengono », Sua Santità proseguiva : « Lasciate che il Nostro pensiero e il Nostro cuore ritornino alla fonte del Nostro dolore nella contemplazione di figli gli uni contro gli altri armati e combattenti, quasi non fossero fratelli di una fede e di una speranza ». Così pure pochi giorni dopo, il 6 ottobre, alle 12 mila rappresentanti della Gioventù Femminile di Azione Cattolica Italiana: « L'ora presente è ora di devastazione, ma tanto più per voi ora di fiducioso e intenso lavoro a vantaggio della diletta Patria e dei vostri simili, fratelli e sorelle nella carità di Cristo. Domani, se il mondo non vorrà rimanere per sempre sepolto nell'ombra di morte, dovrà sforzarsi di riparare e rialzare le sue rovine. Allora sarà il momento della collaborazione vostra ».

Indi passando a delineare il programma dell'azione loro riservata, esclamava : « Oh le belle opere che attendono il vostro concorso ! Ricostruire la società su basi cristiane ; rimettere in stima e onore il Vangelo e la sua morale ; rinnovare la famiglia restituendo al matrimonio l'aureola della sua dignità sacramentale... raffermare in tutti i gradi della società la genuina nozione dell'autorità, della disciplina, del rispetto

agli ordinamenti sociali, dei reciproci diritti e doveri della persona umana ».

Nel radiomessaggio in lingua spagnuola inviato il 13 ottobre alla città di Santa Fé de la Vera Cruz, a chiusura del Congresso eucaristico nazionale argentino, Sua Santità esortava a pregare N. S. Gesù Cristo « que infunda su paz, domadora de las pasiones humanas, en el ánimo de todos los pueblos para que rebose de los corazones y apague la áspera lucha que sembra la muerte en la tierra, en los mares y en los cielos, y alimenta a los pueblos con el pan del dolor empapado en lágrimas de sangre ».

Un'importante parentesi liturgica si aveva il 18 dello stesso mese coll'udienza dei partecipanti al Sinodo Intereparchiale, tenutosi in quei giorni nell'Abazia di Grottaferrata ove, per la circostanza, si era anche recata una delegazione dei dissidenti autocefali d'Albania, con a capo il Vescovo dissidente di Valona e di Bera. Infatti il Santo Padre, richiamando le secolari sollecitudini dei Romani Pontefici per i cattolici di rito greco in Italia, diceva tra l'altro: « Codesto Sinodo, che Ci auguriamo sia albore di un nuovo meriggio nella storia religiosa degli italo-greci, richiama alla Nostra mente la visione di un passato ricco di preziosa operosità a gloria di Dio e a bene delle anime e Ci insinua e dà la fiduciosa speranza di attuazioni non meno belle e feconde per l'avvenire. Anche Noi, sorretti e sospinti dagli esempi apostolici dei Nostri venerati Predecessori, bramiamo che gli usi legittimi del rito e le prescrizioni della liturgia vengano osservati nella loro integrale purezza, ben conoscendo a prova che l'esatta osservanza delle norme liturgiche suscita negli animi dei fedeli stima ed amore all'ordinamento ecclesiastico e al culto divino e unisce più strettamente l'uomo con la Chiesa e con Dio ».

Il giorno dopo pronunciava un altro radiomessaggio, questa volta in lingua inglese, per l'Episcopato ed i fedeli degli Stati

Uniti nella vigilia della giornata missionaria che ha trovato anche quest'anno larga corrispondenza nel popolo cristiano. L'attualità vi aveva la sua nota dolorosa : « At the present hour men are far, far removed from this peace; the intimate sense of common values both in the natural and supernatural order, threatens to abdicate in many hearts to opposing principles ; so much the more comforting, then, and inspiring will be your efficacious fidelity to the Catholic missionary spirit. For after all, the peace of the world is also a missionary aim of the Church. On the tranquillity of order among men depends her life, the conquest and salvation of souls, the diffusion of the precious gift of faith, the triumph over evil, — all leading to that goal of unchangeable peace in eternity ».

A chiusura del Congresso Eucaristico Nazionale del Perú, svoltosi ad Arequipa, Pio XII, il 27 ottobre, inviava un altro radiomessaggio in lingua spagnuola, in cui si legge : « Que en este crecer de vuestra fe y de vuestro celo por la causa de Cristo, Rey de las almas por Él redimidas, sea la oración el arma más asidua y garante de victoria : vuestra oración, la de vuestros hijos y la del pueblo entero ante Aquél que es tesoro y fuente de toda fuerza, Dios de los ejércitos y Príncipe de la paz. Pedidle a Él a una con Nos, pedidle constantemente para vosotros y para todo el mundo esta paz, voto cotidiano y anhelo insaciable de Nuestro ánimo y de la Esposa de Cristo ».

Ricevendo le Credenziali del nuovo Ministro di Romania, il 15 novembre, il Sovrano Pontefice diceva che questa « est une heure comme voilée d'ombres et dominée par des événements qui transforment l'aspect extérieur et le développement spirituel du continent européen, les engagent en de nouvelles voies et, en même temps, imposent aux peuples des sacrifices et des épreuves de jour en jour croissants ». E riferendosi alle parole pronunziate dal Signor Ministro, proseguiva : « C'est avec satisfaction que Nous vous avons entendu déclarer que,

dans les rapports entre l'Eglise et l'Etat, Votre Gouvernement veut aussi s'inspirer de trois principes fondamentaux : le respect de la religion, la fidèle exécution des engagements contractés et un profond attachement à la cause de la paix ».

Proprio in quei giorni avveniva il grave terremoto che funestava la stessa Romania; il Padre comune faceva tosto pervenire l'espressione del Suo cordoglio per la terribile sciagura e inviava insieme speciali sussidi per i bisognosi delle regioni colpite.

Secondo le intenzioni espresse nel Suo Motu Proprio del 27 ottobre, il Sommo Pontefice il 24 novembre celebrava la santa Messa nella Basilica Vaticana, gremita di fedeli, ai quali tenne un ispirato discorso, dicendo tra l'altro : « Abbiamo seguito il grido e l'impulso del Nostro cuore, perchè fra le genti si ristabilisse la concordia, da lungo tempo turbata e ora miseramente spezzata, con un ordine più equo e unanime, basato su quella giustizia, la quale tranquilla le passioni, sopisce gli odii, spegne i fermenti dei rancori e delle lotte; un ordine che tenda ad attribuire a tutti i popoli, nella tranquillità, nella libertà e nella sicurezza, la parte, ad ognuno di essi in questa terra spettante, delle fonti della prosperità e della potenza, affine di rendere loro possibile l'adempimento della parola del Creatore : « Crescite et multiplicamini, et replete terram ».

E nel Motu Proprio *Cum bellica conflicto* del 1° dicembre : « Ci sia lecito sperare e confidare che, almeno in quella santa notte, e in quel santo giorno (di Natale), spontaneamente o per mutuo accordo, intervenga da parte di tutti i belligeranti una tregua, di maniera che lo strepito delle armi non copra l'angelico concento di pace, che si ripete nei sacri templi e affinchè nuove effusioni di sangue fraterno non turbino o estinguano miseramente la celestiale letizia di quell'ora ».

Così il 9 dicembre, rispondendo all'indirizzo d'omaggio del nuovo Ambasciatore francese, che Gli presentava le Creden-

ziali, il Santo Padre diceva : « Nous voulons espérer que tous ceux à qui est échue la mission de dominer le présent et de jeter les bases spirituelles et matérielles de l'avenir, sauront développer dans l'ordre et la concorde les richesses d'énergie et de sentiment enracinées au plus profond de l'âme des peuples, et profiter du cours des événements pour fixer aux nations un but digne du dévouement et des sacrifices de leurs citoyens, et, par là, capable d'éliminer les ombres et les inquiétudes qui font obstacle à un vrai accord des pensées et des volontés ».

RAPPORTI CON SOVRANI E CAPI DI STATO

Il 21 dicembre 1939 Sua Maestà Vittorio Emanuele III Re e Imperatore con l'Augusta Consorte rendeva visita al Sommo Pontefice in forma solenne, accompagnato da numerosi Personaggi della Corte e del Governo italiano. Accolto al confine dal Governatore della Città del Vaticano che rivolse alle Loro Maestà un breve indirizzo di omaggio, il corteo reale si recò al cortile di San Damaso, ove i Sovrani vennero ricevuti con gli onori militari. I Sovrani salirono quindi agli appartamenti pontifici e vennero incontrati sulla soglia della Sala del Tronetto dal Santo Padre. Al termine del colloquio e avvenuta la presentazione del seguito, Egli rivolgeva all'eletta adunanza un breve discorso. « La fede, diceva Sua Santità, che animò nei secoli la illustre Casa di Savoia e la elevò anche sugli altari, ha attestato oggi innanzi a Noi quanto intensa essa viva nella reale e imperiale Dinastia la cui gloria si sublima nell'emblema della candida croce ». L'avvenimento destò una eco profonda e simpatica in tutto il mondo, con commenti ispirati a fiducia per i benefici effetti che si potevano sperare nell'opera di pacificazione fra i popoli.

Dopo la Sua allocuzione di Natale in risposta agli auguri presentatiGli dal Sacro Collegio, il Sommo Pontefice comunicava che il Presidente Roosevelt aveva nominato Sua Eccellenza Myron C. Taylor come Rappresentante personale dello stesso Presidente, con rango di Ambasciatore Straordinario presso la Santa Sede « affinchè, diceva il Presidente, i nostri paralleli sforzi per la pace e per il sollievo delle sofferenze possano insieme sostenersi ».

Qualche giorno dopo, il 28 dicembre, Sua Santità restituiva solennemente la visita a Sua Maestà il Re Imperatore Vittorio

Emanuele III nel palazzo del Quirinale. Se l'avvenimento attrasse l'attenzione e l'ammirazione di tutto il mondo, allietò particolarmente i cattolici, e in primo luogo la popolazione italiana che scorse in esso come un nuovo suggello della provvidenziale opera dei Patti Lateranensi dai quali ebbe felice inizio, come aurora di tranquilla e fraterna unione di animi innanzi ai sacri altari e nel consorzio civile, la pace di Cristo restituita all'Italia (Enciclica *Summi Pontificatus*).

Il corteo papale, al rintocco del campanone del Campidoglio, a cui rispose la distesa delle campane di S. Pietro e delle chiese di Roma, mosse verso il Quirinale alle ore 10 per un percorso sul quale si trovavano schierate le truppe del Presidio di Roma e una numerosa folla accorsa, nonostante l'inclemenza del tempo, ad applaudire il Santo Padre che, per meglio contraccambiare il saluto figliale del popolo, volle procedere a vettura scoperta.

Giunto alla Reggia il Sommo Pontefice venne accolto dai Sovrani d'Italia, dai Principi Reali e dalla Corte e dopo aver sostato in preghiera nella cappella Paolina, passò attraverso le sale ricevendo l'omaggio degli illustri personaggi presenti. Nel discorso tenuto nella sala del trono, il Sommo Pontefice diceva: « In questa Reggia, dopo dieci anni, si risigilla la felice concordia segnata fra la Chiesa e lo Stato, concordia che illumina in una medesima luce di gloria i nomi del venerato Nostro Antecessore Pio XI e della Maestà di Vittorio Emanuele III. Il Vaticano e il Quirinale, che il Tevere divide, sono riuniti dal vincolo della pace coi ricordi della religione dei padri e degli avi. Le onde tiberine hanno travolto e sepolto nei gorghi del Tirreno i torbidi flutti del passato, e fatto rifiorire le sue sponde dei rami d'olivo ».

All'indomani della solenne visita, S. M. il Re Imperatore conferiva l'Ordine Supremo della Santissima Annunziata all'Emo Cardinale Maglione, Segretario di Stato. Dandogliene

l'annuncio S. M. aggiungeva: « Il mio Ambasciatore nel rimettervene le insegne vi ripeterà la soddisfazione mia e del mio Governo e il giubilo di tutti gli Italiani per queste memorabili giornate ». Da parte Sua il Santo Padre conferì la decorazione dello Speron d'Oro al Conte Ciano, Ministro degli Esteri d'Italia.

L'*Osservatore Romano* del 21 gennaio 1940 pubblicava la traduzione della risposta pontificia al Presidente Roosevelt. Nell'augusto documento si legge: « As Vicar on earth of the Prince of Peace, from the first days of Our Pontificate We have dedicated Our efforts and Our solicitude to the purpose of maintaining peace, and afterwards of reestablishing it. Heedless of momentary lack of success and of difficulties involved, We are continuing to follow along the path marked out for Us by Our Apostolic mission... And now that in this hour of world-wide pain and misgiving the Chief Magistrate of the great North American Federation, under the spell of the Holy Night of Christmas, should have taken a prominent place in the vanguard of those who would promote peace and generously succour the victims of the war, bespeaks a providential help, which We acknowledge with grateful joy and increased confidence ».

Nel febbraio Sua Santità inviava un Messaggio augurale a S. M. Hirohito, Imperatore del Giappone per le feste 26 volte centenarie dell'Impero giapponese; Sua Maestà rispondeva in termini cortesi, ringraziando e facendo voti per la felicità personale del Sommo Pontefice e per la grandezza del Suo Pontificato.

Il Santo Padre faceva, poi, pervenire allo stesso Imperatore un esemplare dell'edizione fototipica e critica del Mappamondo del P. Ricci, curata dalla Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, e Sua Maestà inviava tosto un messaggio di ringraziamento a Sua Santità per il « prezioso libro » aggiungendo di averlo

sempre caro « comme un gage marqué de l'amitié que Elle ne cesse de me porter ».

Così pure uno scambio di messaggi avveniva ai primi di marzo fra il Sommo Pontefice e Sua Altezza l'Ammiraglio Nicola Horthy per il 20° anniversario della sua elezione a Reggente d'Ungheria.

Il 6 maggio il Papa riceveva in solenne udienza le Loro Altezze i Principi di Piemonte Umberto e Maria di Savoia intrattenendoli per oltre mezz'ora in affabile colloquio. Anche questa visita degli Augusti Principi Ereditari fu seguita dall'interesse mondiale, dando luogo a vasti consensi.

Il 7 maggio uno scambio di telegrammi tra il Santo Padre e il Generale Carmona, Presidente della Repubblica Portoghese salutava la firma del Concordato e dell'Accordo Missionario tra la Santa Sede e quella Repubblica.

La sera del 10 maggio, quando già Belgio, Olanda e Lussemburgo erano stati travolti nel turbine della guerra, Sua Santità indirizzò ai Sovrani di quei Paesi, in relazioni diplomatiche con la Santa Sede, l'espressione dei Suoi sentimenti di viva commozione e di particolare paterno interesse.

Nello stesso mese si ebbe uno scambio di messaggi fra Sua Santità ed il Generalissimo Franco, che aveva inviato un devoto omaggio al Vicario di Cristo per la beatificazione della spagnuola Gioacchina de Vedruna Ved. de Mas.

Parimente il Presidente del Perù, inaugurando, il 28 luglio, il Congresso dei Rappresentanti, ha professato con nobili parole i sentimenti cattolici di quella Nazione, ringraziando il Santo Padre per la Sua generosa offerta a beneficio delle vittime del recente terremoto colà avvenuto.

Altri voti augurali furono scambiati alla fine di luglio fra Sua Santità ed il Re Imperatore Vittorio Emanuele III, che in quei giorni compiva il quarantesimo di regno.

Inoltre Sua Santità si degnava di ricevere in particolare Udienza:

l'8 gennaio, Sua Altezza Reale il Principe Rupprecht di Baviera;

il 20 gennaio, Sua Altezza Reale il Principe Don Gabriele Borbone-Due Sicilie, con Famiglia e seguito;

il giorno 18 marzo, Sua Altezza Reale la Principessa Stefania del Belgio, Principessa de Lonyay, col Principe de Lonyay de Hagy Lonyay;

il 1° aprile, Sua Altezza Reale la Duchessa Maria José di Baviera e Sua Altezza Reale l'Infanta Aldegonda;

il 18 aprile, Sua Altezza Reale la Duchessa di Parma con famiglia e seguito;

il 21 aprile, Sua Maestà la Regina Amelia di Portogallo;

il 25 aprile, Sua Altezza Reale la Principessa Maria Immacolata Duchessa di Sassonia;

il 28 maggio, Sua Maestà il Re Alfonso XIII;

il 21 giugno, Sua Altezza Reale il Duca di Calabria con l'Augusta Famiglia e il seguito;

il 21 novembre, Sua Eccellenza la Contessa Iolanda Calvi di Bergolo, nata Principessa di Savoia.

RAPPORTI E CONVENZIONI CON I GOVERNI

Il 2 febbraio 1940 ha avuto luogo lo scambio delle ratifiche della Convenzione fra la Santa Sede e il Governo Italiano per l'applicazione dell'art. 29, lettera G del Concordato dell'11 febbraio 1929 e per la definizione di altri rapporti concernenti le chiese e le cappelle palatine e il relativo clero.

In occasione della sua venuta a Roma per conferire col Governo Italiano, il Ministro germanico degli Esteri, Sua Eccellenza von Ribbentrop, per mezzo dell'Ambasciatore presso la Santa Sede domandò un'udienza del Santo Padre. La mattina dell'11 marzo, ricevuto all'ingresso del Palazzo Apostolico col cerimoniale stabilito dal protocollo vigente per la visita dei Ministri degli Esteri, Sua Eccellenza von Ribbentrop fu introdotto nella Biblioteca privata ove il Santo Padre lo intrattenne per oltre un'ora.

Il Ministro di Stato di Romania, Sua Eccellenza Teofilo Siderovici, Comandante dell'organizzazione giovanile romena « Straja Tzarii » volle, il 17 febbraio, rendere particolare atto di omaggio al Sommo Pontefice e recargli l'attestato di deferente saluto di Re Carol. In un breve discorso in latino il Ministro presentò al Santo Padre, a nome dei Capi della Guardia della Nazione, l'omaggio della Romania e in primo luogo di S. M. il Re Carol « come a Sommo Pontefice e vindice supremo della cristianità ».

Sua Santità usando parimente la lingua latina esprimeva al Signor Ministro la Sua riconoscenza per la visita e pregandolo di ricambiare al Capo della Nazione il saluto per suo mezzo pervenutoGli formava voti per la diletta Romania e per la gioventù romena.

Il 18 marzo il Sottosegretario di Stato Sumner Welles,

inviato dal Presidente degli Stati Uniti in Europa per avere dirette informazioni sullo stato delle cose europee, fu ricevuto da Sua Santità in speciale udienza insieme con S. E. Myron Taylor, Rappresentante presso Sua Santità del Signor Presidente Roosevelt.

Sua Eccellenza il Signor Conte Paolo Teleki, Presidente dei Ministri di Ungheria, si recò il 28 marzo in Vaticano, dove accolto con tutti gli onori dovuti al suo grado, fu ricevuto in speciale udienza dal Santo Padre. Al termine dell'udienza ai personaggi del seguito presentatiGli Sua Santità ricordò le giornate del Congresso Eucaristico Internazionale di Budapest ed auspicando ogni bene alla Nazione ungherese incaricò il Signor Presidente di portare al Reggente Horthy ed alla Consorte di lui il Suo speciale augurio dei più eletti doni celesti.

Il 17 aprile si firmava una Convenzione per la spedizione delle rispettive valigie diplomatiche tra la Santa Sede e la Repubblica Argentina.

Alle grandiose commemorazioni celebrate quest'anno in Portogallo dell'VIII centenario dell'indipendenza nazionale e del III della sua restaurazione, la Santa Sede ha recato il suo nobile e benefico contributo, oltre che con un'Ambasciata straordinaria e con l'Enciclica *Saeculo exeunte* del 13 giugno, con il Concordato e l'Accordo Missionario solennemente stipulati il 17 maggio e ratificati il 1° giugno.

Come ebbe a dichiarare l'Emo Cardinale Patriarca di Lisbona, « questi due documenti storici sono di quelli che fanno epoca nella storia di un popolo: non s'incidono per anni ma per secoli. L'uno redintegra il Portogallo nelle fonti della sua vita spirituale; l'altro ne consacra la vocazione missionaria ».

Il 23 maggio Sua Santità riceveva la Missione speciale giapponese giunta in quei giorni a Roma, presieduta da Sua Eccellenza Naotake Sato, Ambasciatore; la Missione offrì al

Sommo Pontefice un grande alcione d'argento, simbolo della benefica attività di Pio XII in favore della pace, attività che si libra sempre al di sopra dei marosi e delle tempeste e rincuora i naviganti della vita, indicando loro gli approdi di salvezza.

Il giorno 16 novembre il Generale Antonescu, Capo del Governo di Romania, si recò in Vaticano dove, accolto con tutti i debiti onori, fu ricevuto in udienza speciale dal Santo Padre che lo trattenne in cordiale colloquio ricevendo poi il Signor Mihail Sturdza, Ministro degli Affari Esteri. Al termine dell'udienza il Pontefice ricevette pure gli altri dignitari e seguiti del Capo del Governo e del Ministro degli Esteri ed espresse loro il Suo gradimento per la visita fattaGli e invocò le più larghe benedizioni su di essi, sulle loro famiglie e sulla loro patria.

Oltre alle personalità precedentemente indicate, Sua Santità si degnava di ricevere in particolare Udienza:

il 25 gennaio, S. E. il Senatore Cav. Luigi Federzoni e famiglia;

il 18 febbraio, S. E. Enrico Caviglia, Maresciallo d'Italia;

il 18 marzo, S. E. Pehr Evind Svinhufvud, già Presidente della Repubblica di Finlandia;

il 16 aprile, S. E. il Prof. Costantino Giurescu, Ministro della Propaganda Nazionale di Romania, con il suo seguito;

il 26 novembre, S. E. il Dr. Giuseppe Varga, Ministro del Commercio e dell'Industria di Ungheria, con il suo seguito.

NEL SACRO COLLEGIO

Seguendo, sia pure a larghi cenni, l'opera svolta dal Santo Padre nel presente anno, abbiamo veduto più volte il Sacro Collegio prendere viva parte alle gravi sollecitudini del Supremo Pastore, che non ha mancato di esprimere agli Eminentissimi Cardinali il Suo Augusto e grato compiacimento.

Singoli membri dello stesso Sacro Collegio sono stati poi particolarmente onorati dalla fiducia e dalla benevolenza pontificia nelle varie occasioni che a ciò si offrivano.

Così nel mese di maggio Sua Eminenza il Cardinale Emanuele Celestino Suhard, Arcivescovo di Reims, era trasferito alla sede di Parigi, dove le sue qualità pastorali dovevano ben presto trovare un così vasto e delicato campo di azione. In settembre l'Emo Cardinale Giacomo Luigi Copello, Arcivescovo di Buenos Aires, era nominato Legato Pontificio al Congresso Eucaristico Nazionale celebratosi a Santa Fé nel mese successivo. Nella Lettera Apostolica direttagli in data 14 settembre, Sua Santità auspicava ampia messe di frutti salutari dalle solenni celebrazioni e ricordava con paterna compiacenza la fervida e operosa pietà del popolo argentino ch'Egli stesso, quale Legato Pontificio al Congresso Eucaristico Internazionale del 1934, aveva di presenza ammirato.

Nel presente anno gli Emi Cardinali Dionisio Dougherty, Arcivescovo di Filadelfia, e Carlo Cremonesi, Presidente della Commissione Amministratrice delle Opere di Religione, hanno celebrato il 50° dell'ordinazione sacerdotale; gli Emi Cardinali Giuseppe MacRory, Arcivescovo di Armagh, ed Enrico Gasparri, Vescovo Suburbicario di Velletri e Prefetto del Supremo Tribunale della Segnatura, il 25° anniversario della consacrazione episcopale. A tutti gli Eminentissimi giubilati

Sua Santità ha voluto inviare una Lettera di riconoscimento dei loro distinti meriti, di felicitazione e di benedizione.

Purtroppo, però, non mancarono i lutti che tolsero al Sacro Collegio due eminenti Pastori. Nella notte dall'8 al 9 aprile spirava l'Emo Cardinale Giovanni Verdier, Arcivescovo di Parigi, universalmente conosciuto e largamente stimato per le sue esimie doti di Pastore, per lo zelo illuminato, la sagace intuizione dei bisogni del tempo, la paterna inesauribile carità. L'incremento dato alla costruzione di nuove chiese nella periferia della metropoli, il fervore spiegato nel promuovere le opere di apostolato e specialmente l'Azione Cattolica e le insigni benemerenze acquistatesi verso la patria giustificano il largo rimpianto che la sua scomparsa ha suscitato in Francia e fuori.

Il Cardinale Isidoro Gomá y Tomas, Arcivescovo di Toledo, moriva il 22 agosto. Dotato di ricche qualità d'ingegno, distinto da erudizione vasta, da acuto senso di attualità e da facilità non ordinaria di comporre, lavorò con zelo ed efficacia in Spagna e fuori per il trionfo della Fede. Rimarrà vivo il ricordo della mirabile azione religiosa e civile svolta nel travagliatissimo periodo della guerra di Spagna e dell'ardore con cui sino all'ultimo si consacrò a dimostrare con la parola e gli scritti come il progresso delle fortune della patria e la grandezza della Religione si avvantaggino da un'opera di sacre e civili rivendicazioni.

CANONIZZAZIONI E BEATIFICAZIONI

Anche quest'anno si sono avute nella Basilica Vaticana le solenni e caratteristiche cerimonie per elevare eroici figli della Chiesa agli onori degli altari.

Così, il 2 maggio furono canonizzate la Beata Maria di S. Eufrasia Pelletier, francese, Fondatrice delle Suore dell'Istituto del Buon Pastore, grande figura di donna alla quale non mancarono nè lo splendore di grandi e vasti pensieri, nè gli esempi di volontà fattiva e creativa, e la B. Gemma Galgani, la prima Santa morta e canonizzata nel secolo XX cui l'Italia deve una nuova conferma del suo primato tra le Nazioni più feconde di Santi.

Seguirono quindi le Beatificazioni di:

Filippina Duchesne, francese, della Società delle Suore del S. Cuore di Gesù (12 maggio), che occupa un posto così distinto tra i pionieri del movimento missionario negli Stati Uniti; Gioacchina de Vedruna Vedova de Mas, spagnuola, fondatrice dell'Istituto delle Carmelitane di Carità (19 maggio); Maria Crocifissa di Rosa, bresciana, Fondatrice della Congregazione delle Suore Ancelle della Carità (26 maggio); Maria Guglielma Emilia de Rodat, francese, Fondatrice delle Suore della Sacra Famiglia (9 giugno); Ignazio da Laconi, sardo, laico professo dei Minori Cappuccini (16 giugno).

Ogni volta la grande Basilica, ornata ed illuminata sfarzosamente, era affollatissima di fedeli, che tributavano al Santo Padre devote ed entusiastiche acclamazioni.

MISSIONI

L'*Osservatore Romano* del 18 dicembre 1939 pubblicava una « Istruzione » della S. Congregazione de Propaganda Fide, in data 8 dello stesso mese, in cui si dichiara che, non avendo più alcune cerimonie cinesi che « un significato civile di ossequio agli antenati o di amore verso la patria o di urbanità nei rapporti sociali », è lecito ai cattolici cinesi di « intervenire agli atti di onore compiuti innanzi all'immagine o alla tabella di Confucio nei monumenti confuciani o nelle scuole », come pure d'intervenire « a cerimonie pubbliche, anche se queste mostrino sembianza di superstizione », purchè « vi assistano passivamente e si associno solo a quell'omaggio che si possa con fondamento ritenere puramente civile »; parimenti sono dichiarati leciti gli inchini del capo ed altre manifestazioni di ossequio civile innanzi ai defunti o alle loro immagini o tabelle.

Con un decreto del 9 aprile 1940 emanato dalla stessa Sacra Congregazione « i missionari di quei territori delle Indie Orientali, ove fino allora vigeva l'obbligo del giuramento circa i riti malabarici, vengono dispensati da tale obbligo, ferme restando le prescrizioni di Benedetto XIV, in quanto non siano state successivamente modificate dalla Santa Sede ».

Nell'*Osservatore Romano* dell'8 novembre si comunicava che l'Emo Cardinale Fumasoni Biondi, Prefetto della Sacra Congregazione de Propaganda Fide, aveva incaricato Monsignor Franco Carminati, Segretario del Consiglio Superiore Generale della Pontificia Opera per la Propagazione della Fede, di prendere le opportune misure e necessari accordi per la compilazione di « un dizionario o piccola enciclopedia missionaria ».

La S. Congregazione de Propaganda Fide, dal 15 dicembre 1939 al 15 dicembre 1940 ha eretto le Diocesi di Lucknow, di Bangalore e di Guntur, in India; i Vicariati Apostolici di Sassandra, nell'Africa Occidentale Francese (Costa d'Avorio), di Kanko, in Corea, e di Semarang, nelle Indie Orientali Olandesi; l'Abbazia « nullius » di Tuguken, in Corea; le Prefetture Apostoliche di Jhansi, in India; di Endeber e di Hosanna, nell'Africa Orientale Italiana; di Aysen, nel Cile; di Berberati, nell'Africa Equatoriale Francese; e di Akyab, in Birmania. Inoltre ha elevato a Vicariato Apostolico la Prefettura Apostolica di Fuhsun, in Manciuria, ed ha elevato a Prefetture Apostoliche le Missioni « sui iuris » di Kiamutze, in Cina, e di Bigoro, nel Congo Belga.

Il nuovo Vicariato Apostolico di Kanko e la nuova Abbazia « nullius » di Tokugen, in Corea furono create dividendo l'antico Vicariato Apostolico di Wonsan.

Durante quest'anno il lavoro della S. Congregazione de Propaganda Fide è stato certamente limitato dalla guerra. È naturale che una guerra di questo genere interessi molto da vicino anche le Missioni, sebbene, grazie a Dio, i danni diretti siano per ora minori di quanto si poteva temere. Le espulsioni, gli internamenti ed i richiami dei Missionari sono assai limitati e non sono da confrontarsi con quelli della guerra del 1914-1918.

Molto più gravi invece sono, e lo saranno in seguito, i danni indiretti, causati dalle difficoltà di mandare nuovo personale nei paesi di missione, dagli ostacoli creati per la formazione del personale missionario e dalla naturale diminuzione delle offerte per la causa santa delle Missioni; giacchè non bisogna dimenticare che oramai sono state travolte dalla guerra quasi tutte le nazioni che davano alle Missioni Cattoliche il maggior numero del personale e le maggiori offerte.

In vista dell'aumento del numero dei cattolici latini nell'Albania meridionale, il Santo Padre, con decreto della Sacra Congregazione per la Chiesa Orientale, vi ha eretto una speciale Amministrazione Apostolica nominandone titolare Sua Eccellenza Revma Mons. Leone G. B. Nigris, Delegato Apostolico in Albania.

AZIONE CATTOLICA

Una lettera del Cardinale Segretario di Stato al Cardinale Luigi Lavitrano, Presidente della Commissione Cardinalizia per l'Azione Cattolica Italiana, pubblicata sull'*Osservatore Romano* del 28 giugno 1940, annunciava che il Santo Padre aveva approvato i nuovi Statuti della stessa Azione Cattolica Italiana, frutto prezioso dell'intelligente e laborioso studio dell'Eminentissima Commissione, « avendoli trovati corrispondenti alle attuali circostanze ed alle particolari esigenze dell'attività cattolica in Italia ». La medesima Santità Sua, diceva inoltre la lettera, nutre serena fiducia che l'A. C. I., d'ora innanzi anche più strettamente unita alla Gerarchia ecclesiastica nella persona dei Vescovi e dei Parroci, potrà rispondere con sempre maggiore efficacia ai suoi nobili compiti.

Una prima occasione, poi, per parlare direttamente ai membri dell'A. C. I. era offerta al Santo Padre dall'udienza di parecchie migliaia di dirigenti, presentati dallo stesso Cardinale Lavitrano, il 4 settembre, nella quale prendeva con essa il primo solenne contatto ufficiale.

In questa circostanza il Santo Padre pronunciava un ampio e magistrale discorso nel quale, riferendosi ai nuovi Statuti dell'Azione Cattolica Italiana, diceva: « È pregio di ogni salutare istituto il crescere custodito e regolato, perfezionandosi nel suo svolgimento e condizionandosi sempre più all'alta intenzione del fine. Onde assai Ci compiacciamo di rendere grazie alla Commissione Cardinalizia per la redazione dei nuovi Statuti (in altri Paesi, pur mantenendo il concetto fondamentale e le linee essenziali, possono adottarsi altre speciali forme

e ordinamenti secondo le diverse tradizioni e le particolari circostanze), nuovi Statuti, che ad altro non mirano se non a rendere l'Azione Cattolica più adeguata e aderente ai bisogni delle anime e dei tempi, sempre più strettamente unita alla Gerarchia ecclesiastica, affinchè questo vivace albero, fatto rifiorire nel giardino della Chiesa dal Nostro Antecessore, dilati i suoi rami in mezzo al popolo cristiano ».

Sua Santità, tratteggiata la storia e ricordate le benemerenze dell'Azione Cattolica dall'inizio della Chiesa, elogiava l'Azione Cattolica Italiana per l'opera svolta fin qui, ed additava i compiti dell'ora presente, precisandone le condizioni in una quadruplice unione: con la Gerarchia ecclesiastica, con Dio, fra i membri stessi e con le altre associazioni religiose soggette alla direzione ecclesiastica.

Parlando della prima unione, il Sommo Pontefice diceva: « Per tal modo i soci dell'Azione Cattolica, la quale non è e non vuol essere un'associazione di partito, bensì un'eletta di esempio e fervore religioso, dimostreranno di essere non solo ferventissimi cristiani, ma anche perfetti cittadini, non estranei agli alti compiti della convivenza nazionale e sociale, amanti della patria e pronti a dare per essa anche la vita, ogni qualvolta il legittimo bene del Paese richiegga questo supremo sacrificio ».

Altra memoranda giornata per l'A. C. I. fu quella del 6 ottobre, quando, come già accennammo, furono ricevute in udienza circa 12 mila rappresentanti della Gioventù femminile, alle quali Sua Santità, oltre le parole su riferite, rivolse preziosi insegnamenti ed esortazioni intorno alla formazione ed all'apostolato da svolgersi nella loro Associazione.

Analoghe istruzioni dava il Sommo Pontefice alla Gioventù Maschile di A. C., nell'imponente udienza del 10 novembre,

dove convennero parecchie migliaia di rappresentanti venuti a Roma d'ogni parte d'Italia per la premiazione della gara nazionale di coltura religiosa e di canto sacro, premiazione che la stessa Santità Sua si compiacque di presiedere, felicitando tutti e singoli i valenti giovani riusciti vincitori.

DOCUMENTI VARI

Non pochi importanti documenti pontifici furono pubblicati quest'anno, alcuni dei quali si riferiscono in tutto od in parte agli eccezionali avvenimenti internazionali, altri al governo ordinario della Chiesa.

La S. Congregazione Concistoriale con un decreto del 13 aprile ha dato opportune norme circa la giurisdizione spirituale dell'Ordinario Militare in Italia, coordinandola con quella degli Ordinari diocesani.

L'assistenza religiosa agli eserciti dei Paesi belligeranti ha continuato a fare oggetto delle più vigili ed amorevoli cure da parte del Sommo Pontefice, paternamente preoccupato di assicurare ai suoi figli, nelle dure giornate d'armi, gl'insostituibili conforti della religione.

Una Lettera Apostolica in data 15 aprile, intitolata « Superiore anno » e diretta al Cardinale Segretario di Stato, indiceva speciali preghiere per la pace dei popoli, da farsi nel successivo mese di maggio, invitando particolarmente i bambini.

Col Breve Apostolico del 12 maggio si concedevano ai cattolici della Iugoslavia, dal 29 giugno 1940 al 29 giugno 1941, i tesori spirituali dell'anno giubilare per il 13° centenario delle relazioni fra la Santa Sede ed i Croati, che segnarono l'inizio della evangelizzazione di quel popolo.

Un'Epistola Enciclica « Saeculo exeunte » in data 13 giugno era diretta all'Episcopato portoghese per l'VIII centenario della fondazione ed il III della restaurazione del Portogallo; il documento pontificio è quasi tutto dedicato alle opere missionarie e tratta in particolare delle vocazioni, dell'Unione missionaria del clero, del clero indigeno e delle suore indigene.

Una lettera del Cardinale Segretario di Stato a Sua Eccellenza Monsignor Drago, Presidente del Comitato Permanente Italiano dei Congressi Eucaristici, manifestava il desiderio di Sua Santità di « contenere in limiti convenienti la parte esteriore di queste manifestazioni » e di « aggiungere la nota di propiziazione e di penitenza, per ottenere da Dio la cessazione dei mali attuali » (*Osservatore Romano,* 29 giugno).

Merita particolare rilievo la Lettera diretta dal Santo Padre in data 29 giugno ai Cardinali, Arcivescovi e Vescovi di Francia in risposta alle espressioni di filiale devozione fatteGli pervenire all'indomani dello « sfacelo senza precedenti » abbattutosi su la loro Patria.

« Nous voici avec vous — diceva il Santo Padre — Pasteurs, prêtres, fidèles, ému de votre sort mais consolé en même temps de retrouver en vous aux jours de l'épreuve, dans toute sa dignité l'âme catholique de cette France que la prospérité a pu égarer parfois hors de ses plus nobles traditions, mais que le malheur n'a jamais abattue et a si souvent rapprochée de Dieu pour la rendre, plus vigoureuse et consciente, à sa grande mission spirituelle et chrétienne. C'est précisément vers cette mission, qui est son plus beau titre de gloire, que Nous voulons vous inviter à élever vos yeux ainsi que vos meilleures espérances, pour vous rendre plus parfaitement compte qu'en une heure si triste de votre histoire votre rôle providentiel reste dans toute sa valeur ».

La sollecitudine paterna del Sommo Pontefice non poteva dimenticare i figli della nobile Nazione belga nel momento angoscioso della prova. E infatti in una Lettera indirizzata all'Emo Cardinale Arcivescovo di Malines in data del 31 luglio Egli manifestava a lui, e per suo mezzo all'Episcopato belga, la riconoscenza che nutriva per i Pastori rimasti al loro posto e li incoraggiava a fare tutto il possibile per sostenere la Fede e il coraggio dei loro fedeli. « Fixez en Dieu vos espé-

rances et veillez à ce que l'âme religieuse de la chère Belgique ne souffre pas de l'orage qui s'est déchaîné, mais puisse plutôt en retirer un heureux accroissement de vie et de piété chrétiennes ».

Notevoli pure le seguenti Lettere Apostoliche:

« Primo exeunte », del 15 giugno, diretta all'Episcopato della California per il I centenario della Gerarchia in quel territorio nel quale, in luogo dell'unica diocesi fondata il 27 aprile 1840, ora ne fioriscono sette, due delle quali elevate alla dignità di Chiese metropolitane, i cinquemila fedeli sono saliti a quasi un milione e duecentomila, il piccolo manipolo di missionari francescani è divenuto una legione di mille e seicento sacerdoti.

« Nosti profecto », del 6 luglio, diretta al P. Ledóchowski per il IV centenario dell'approvazione della Compagnia di Gesù. L'importante documento nel quale il Santo Padre ha voluto ricordare le innumerevoli e splendide imprese di cui la Compagnia si è resa benemerita verso la Chiesa, si chiude con l'esortazione a trarre dagli esempi dei maggiori eccitamenti e stimoli ad intraprendere e svolgere imprese sempre più grandi, dato che i tempi nuovi in cui viviamo esigono certamente, anche nei riguardi dello spirito, iniziative, opere e difese di genere nuovo, con cui venire opportunamente in soccorso ai rinnovati e ogni dì crescenti bisogni di questa nostra età.

« Septimo labente », diretta al P. Alfredo Scotti, Maestro Generale dell'Ordine della B. Vergine della Mercede per il VII centenario della morte di S. Raimondo Nonnato e del martirio del Beato Serapio dei Mercedari. Commemorate queste due glorie non meno della Fede che della Carità cristiana, la Lettera conchiude con l'augurio che esempi illustri di uomini così eminenti abbiano a conferire non poco a ristabilire fra i popoli cristiani la raffreddata carità.

Nella Festa di Cristo Re (27 ottobre) Sua Santità firmava il Motu proprio *Norunt profecto,* indicendo per il 24 novembre una giornata eucaristica di penitenza in suffragio dei morti per la guerra e di impetrazione per le altre vittime del grande conflitto e per la pace nella giustizia e nella carità.

Con un altro Motu proprio del 1° dicembre « Cum bellica conflictio », pure già accennato, il Santo Padre concedeva la facoltà di anticipare la s. Messa della notte di Natale alla sera della vigilia nei paesi soggetti all'oscuramento per causa della guerra; facoltà estesa poi anche alla Polonia.

Tra gli importanti atti della Suprema S. Congregazione del Sant'Uffizio va segnalato il decreto del 21 febbraio, approvato dal Santo Padre, con il quale si risponde negativamente al dubbio se sia lecita la diretta sterilizzazione, perpetua o temporanea, aggiungendo che la sterilizzazione è vietata dalla legge naturale e ricordando quanto alla così detta « sterilizzazione eugenica » la proibizione già data con decreto del 21 marzo 1931.

Inoltre in un Decreto della S. Congregazione del Sant'Uffizio in data 2 dicembre si legge: « Quaesitum est ab hac Suprema Sacra Congregazione: " Num licitum sit, ex mandato auctoritatis publicae, directe occidere eos qui, quamvis nullum crimen morte dignum commiserint, tamen ob defectus psychicos vel physicos nationi prodesse iam non valent, eamque potius gravare eiusque vigori ac robori obstare censentur " ».

E si risponde:

« *Negative,* cum sit iuri naturali ac divino positivo contrarium ».

Una particolare importanza per l'avvenire religioso dell'Oriente cattolico presenta il Decreto della S. Congregazione Orientale in data 27 gennaio, con il quale vengono tracciate le norme che devono presiedere alla formazione morale e dot-

trinale degli ecclesiastici di rito orientale appartenenti ai territori patriarcali.

Nel mese di settembre è stata celebrata a Saragozza la I Settimana Biblica Spagnuola con la partecipazione di Sua Eccellenza Mons. Nunzio Apostolico, di parecchi Eccellentissimi Vescovi e di un folto gruppo di studiosi. Il Santo Padre, con lettera dell'Eminentissimo Cardinale Segretario di Stato all'Arcivescovo di Saragozza, si degnava benedire e incoraggiare i lavori della Settimana formulando il voto che i sacerdoti spagnoli « priscam gloriam tuentes, in diligendis ac perdiscendis libris fidei nostrae testatoribus excellant ».

In occasione del fausto Centenario dell'apparizione della Santissima Vergine del Pilar si è celebrato a Saragozza, nel mese di ottobre, un Congresso Nazionale Mariano. Attorno ai venerati Presuli vi era una moltitudine di fedeli accorsi da tutte le parti della Spagna. L'Eminentissimo Cardinale Segretario di Stato, in lettera a Sua Eccellenza Mons. Arcivescovo di Saragozza, significava la compiacenza del Santo Padre per l'omaggio che il nobile popolo spagnuolo « patria feliciter restituta », si preparava a tributare alla Madre celeste, presagendo i copiosi frutti del Congresso con le seguenti parole: « Beati Hispani, qui in Mariae tutelam se recipere gloriantur, si praesentissimam sibi semper eius acquirunt opem, ea quae ipsa diligit diligentes, et ea omnino propellentes quae superna animadversione digna ei displicent! »

Dietro richiesta dell'Eccmo Vescovo di Salamanca, la Sacra Congregazione dei Seminari e delle Università degli Studi in data 25 settembre emanava un decreto con cui veniva ripristinata, con le facoltà di Sacra Teologia e Diritto Canonico, la celebre Università Pontificia Ecclesiastica di Salamanca.

In tal modo, anche per il generoso aiuto del Governo Spagnolo, si riprendono le gloriose tradizioni di quella Università, che validi apporti aveva arrecato nel campo scientifico.

IL SERVIZIO DI INFORMAZIONI DURANTE LA GUERRA

Inoltre, come già durante la guerra 1914-1918, il Santo Padre non poteva restare insensibile ai mali che dovunque e in seno a tutte le classi sociali, accumula il conflitto che insanguina l'Europa. Il Suo cuore paterno ha procurato di portarvi un rimedio ed ha moltiplicato i Suoi sforzi in questo senso, quantunque, come tutti sanno, le attuali condizioni siano assai differenti da quelle di allora, e l'opera benefica della Santa Sede trovi ostacoli e difficoltà, che non aveva finora incontrato.

È così che l'opera Sua caritatevole non ha ancora potuto esplicarsi con tutta l'ampiezza che il Santo Padre avrebbe desiderato, e che i bisogni avrebbero reclamato.

Nel ricordo di quanto l'amore paterno aveva saputo suggerire al gran cuore dei compianti Pontefici Benedetto XV e Pio XI, Sua Santità Pio XII non poteva tralasciare, nella Sua sollecitudine, di far rivivere, per quanto le circostanze lo permettessero, quelle iniziative che si sperava avrebbero portato un sollievo a tante angustie e dolori.

A tale scopo, poichè il perdurare della guerra ne estendeva e moltiplicava sempre più le dolorose ripercussioni, il Santo Padre volle fosse istituito presso la Segreteria di Stato uno speciale « Ufficio di Informazioni ».

Non è qui possibile illustrare dettagliatamente gli scopi di detto Ufficio. Come lo indica il suo nome, esso si propone di fornire alle famiglie, che la privazione di notizie dei loro cari getta in un'indicibile angoscia, qualche informazione sulla loro sorte.

Si tratta di militari che, dopo di essere stati esposti da vicino al pericolo, e di aver preso parte a sanguinose azioni guerresche, non hanno dato più notizie. Si tratta di civili residenti in paesi nemici, e che dallo scoppio della guerra non hanno più potuto far pervenire uno scritto ai loro parenti; di internati in campi di concentramento; di viaggiatori che si dubita siano periti insieme con la nave che li trasportava; di missionari che predicavano il Vangelo in terre lontane, e non si sa se siano ancora o no in vita.

Le domande di informazioni giungono a migliaia a Sua Santità, ed è riservata a ciascuna di esse la più sollecita accoglienza. Tutte sono prese in considerazione, e sono oggetto di speciali premure affine di soddisfarle.

Come si è detto, non sempre è facile accontentare i richiedenti. Tuttavia si sono avuti risultati copiosissimi e consolantissimi. Ed è appunto per facilitare e rendere più rapide le ricerche, che l'affetto paterno verso tanti sventurati ha suggerito all'Augusto Pontefice di mettere a disposizione dell'Ufficio Informazioni anche la collaborazione della Radio Vaticana, la quale si tiene in relazione coi Rappresentanti Pontifici nei diversi paesi, comunica loro, come possibile e consentito dalle norme vigenti, i casi più urgenti, e permette così molte volte di realizzare immediate ricerche.

Alle nobili sollecitudini del Santo Padre hanno corrisposto lo zelo e le caritatevoli premure dei Nunzi e Delegati Apostolici, recatisi anche personalmente, dovunque fu possibile, a visitare i campi di concentramento; è stato così provveduto perchè fossero migliorate le condizioni degli internati e fosse assicurata la loro assistenza morale e religiosa. In questi pellegrinaggi di carità i Rappresentanti della Santa Sede hanno raccolto le più commoventi manifestazioni di gratitudine al Santo Padre.

Superfluo dire che tutta quest'opera di assistenza e di ca-

rità è svolta, dove almeno è possibile (perchè purtroppo non dappertutto, nè sempre trova aperta la via) con perfetta intesa con le competenti Autorità civili e militari ed Enti vari addetti a servizi sanitari o assistenziali. È anzi da segnalare che molte di tali Autorità hanno cortesemente aiutato questa opera benefica, e ne hanno anche gradito i servizi. Sembra degno, ad esempio, di menzione il fatto che le Autorità del Congo Belga hanno messo settimanalmente a disposizione la Radio della Colonia; analogo servizio è stato iniziato da qualche altro centro di diffusione radiofonica.

NUNZIATURE APOSTOLICHE

Il 19 febbraio 1940 Mons. Giuseppe Beltrami, Minutante della Segreteria di Stato di Sua Santità, fu nominato Nunzio Apostolico nelle Repubbliche di El Salvador e di Guatemala col titolo arcivescovile di Damasco.

Con Breve Apostolico del 19 febbraio il Santo Padre si è degnato nominare Nunzio Apostolico in Lituania Sua Eccellenza Revña Mons. Luigi Centoz, Arcivescovo titolare di Edessa di Osroene.

Nel giugno Mons. Giuseppe Burzio è stato nominato Incaricato d'Affari della Santa Sede presso il Governo Slovacco.

Dopo l'occupazione della Polonia faceva ritorno a Roma Sua Eccellenza Revña Mons. Cortesi, Nunzio Apostolico a Varsavia, il quale, come già è stato detto, tanto si era prodigato a favore dei polacchi profughi in Romania.

Verso la fine di luglio è giunto a Roma dal Belgio Sua Eccellenza Revña Mons. Clemente Micara, Nunzio Apostolico a Bruxelles e Internunzio del Lussemburgo. L'*Osservatore Romano* dandone notizia ricordava che Sua Eccellenza durante l'ultima guerra europea era Uditore della Nunziatura a Bruxelles ed aggiungeva che mentre la Nunziatura « potè allora esercitare liberamente la sua missione religiosa e di carità cristiana con soddisfazione delle Autorità belghe e di quelle germaniche di occupazione » oggi questo « non è stato possibile ottenere ». In seguito all'occupazione dell'Olanda da parte delle truppe tedesche ed alla annessione all'U.R.S.S. delle tre Repubbliche baltiche, hanno dovuto far ritorno a Roma Sua Eccellenza Revña Mons. Paolo Giobbe, Internunzio Apostolico in Olanda, Sua Eccellenza Revña Mons. Arata,

Nunzio Apostolico in Lettonia ed Estonia e Sua Eccellenza Revma Mons. Centoz, Nunzio Apostolico in Lituania.

L'*Osservatore Romano* del 2 agosto informava che il Santo Padre aveva conferito la cittadinanza vaticana al personale delle Rappresentanze pontificie (Nunziature, Internunziature, Delegazioni Apostoliche) *durante munere*.

NEL CORPO DIPLOMATICO

Nel periodo da noi considerato hanno presentato a Sua Santità le Lettere Credenziali:

Sua Eccellenza Luis Cruz Ocampo, Ambasciatore del Cile (30 dicembre 1939).

Al discorso di omaggio il Santo Padre rispondeva dicendosi lieto del riconoscimento espresso dal Signor Ambasciatore circa l'importanza della collaborazione della Chiesa. « La Iglesia — diceva in particolare Sua Santità — cuyos dedos maternos tantean con ansioso desvelo el pulso febril de la humanidad de nuestros días; la Iglesia, cuya pupila perspicaz descubre necesidades, dolores y aspiraciones que a otro se les ocultan; la Iglesia, cuyo oído ausculta en las confidencias de los corazones esos abismos de amargura en que están sumidas las almas de los que se creen víctimas de conscientes y inconscientes injusticias; la Iglesia — decimos — ve con palmaria claridad, y secunda con celo incansable, el imperioso deber de aquella " redemptio proletariorum ", que se inició ya en la cueva de Belén, y de la cual Nuestro gran Predecesor habló con tan iluminada y apostólica sabiduría ».

Sua Eccellenza il Dr. Bernardo Attolico, Ambasciatore d'Italia.

Detto Signor Ambasciatore fu ricevuto in solenne udienza il 29 maggio dal Santo Padre al Quale presentò le credenziali e diresse espressioni di devoto omaggio, dicendo di considerare quella sua nomina come il più ambito coronamento della sua carriera diplomatica. Il Santo Padre rispose ringraziando vivamente e assicurando l'Ambasciatore della Sua augusta benevolenza.

Sua Eccellenza Conte Wladimiro d'Ormesson, Ambasciatore di Francia (9 giugno).

All'indirizzo di omaggio rivoltoGli dal nuovo Rappresentante della Francia, Sua Santità rispose con un elevato discorso e, introdotto il Signor Ambasciatore nella Sua Biblioteca privata, lo intrattenne in affabile colloquio per oltre mezz'ora.

Sua Eccellenza il Generale Don Carlos Quintanilla, Ambasciatore di Bolivia (10 agosto). Consegnando le Lettere che lo accreditavano nell'alto ufficio, il Signor Generale dichiarò di considerare la missione affidatagli come il più alto onore cui potesse aspirare come cattolico e cittadino di una Repubblica veramente cristiana ed augurò che la divina Provvidenza costituisse, in quest'ora d'angoscia per il mondo, Sua Santità « árbitro de la Paz ». Il Santo Padre nel discorso di risposta manifestò il Suo compiacimento per l'augurio fattoGli dal Rappresentante di una Nazione cattolica « cuya capital fué fundada con el dulce nombre de *Nuestra Señora de la Paz* » e continuò il Suo dire illustrando — come è stato sopra riportato — le condizioni senza le quali non è possibile una pace vera.

Sua Eccellenza Prof. Dr. Antonio Faria Carneiro Pacheco, Ambasciatore del Portogallo (20 ottobre). (È da notare che con la conclusione del Concordato tra la Santa Sede e il Portogallo la Rappresentanza Diplomatica del Portogallo presso la Santa Sede stessa è stata elevata al grado di Ambasciata). Rispondendo all'indirizzo rivoltoGli dal Signor Ambasciatore, Sua Santità si congratulava con lui per la sua nomina ad occupare presso la Santa Sede « la place d'honneur qui répond au glorieux passé du Portugal non moins qu'à l'énergie actuelle de son effort vers un avenir sain et vigoureux » e proseguiva: « Le Seigneur a donné à la Nation Portugaise un Chef de Gouvernement qui a su conquérir non seulement l'amour de son peuple... mais aussi le respect et l'estime du monde. A lui

revient le mérite d'avoir été, de la part de ce Gouvernement, sous les auspices de l'éminent Président de la République, l'artisan d'une grande œuvre de paix entre l'Etat et l'Eglise, cette société parfaite et suprême, dont l'action bienfaisante, après les tristes expériences faites dans un trouble passé, pourra maintenant s'exercer en assurance au milieu du bien-aimé peuple portugais ».

Sua Eccellenza Dr. Basilio Grigorcea, Ministro di Romania (15 novembre) (vedi sopra pag. 15).

Sua Eccellenza Léon Bérard, Ambasciatore di Francia (9 dicembre). Del discorso con cui Sua Santità rispose al devoto indirizzo del Signor Ambasciatore abbiamo già fatto cenno.

Sua Eccellenza Myron C. Taylor, Rappresentante il Presidente degli Stati Uniti d'America presso il Sovrano Pontefice con rango d'Ambasciatore, era ricevuto dal Santo Padre il 27 febbraio 1940. Il Signor Taylor consegnò una lettera autografa del Signor Presidente a Sua Santità che lo intrattenne a cordiale colloquio, esprimendogli i Suoi voti per il felice successo della missione affidatagli e pregandolo di far pervenire al Signor Presidente e a tutto il popolo americano il Suo speciale saluto e i migliori auguri di bene.

Alla fine di ottobre hanno preso congedo dal Santo Padre: Sua Eccellenza Nicola Comnène, Ambasciatore di Romania e Sua Eccellenza il Conte Wladimiro d'Ormesson, Ambasciatore di Francia.

Un grave lutto ha sofferto il Corpo Diplomatico con la morte di Sua Eccellenza il Conte Paolo Mimbela, Ambasciatore del Perù, avvenuta nella sua patria, dove era appena tornato per un periodo di riposo.

Prospettatasi l'eventualità dell'entrata in guerra dell'Italia, la Segreteria di Stato faceva subito laboriosi passi con il Governo Italiano per assicurare ai Diplomatici accreditati

presso la Santa Sede e appartenenti a Paesi belligeranti nei confronti con l'Italia il tranquillo esercizio della loro missione, conformemente al proposito e al desiderio manifestato dai rispettivi Governi di detti Diplomatici. In seguito a ciò era data risposta che essi avrebbero potuto continuare a svolgere il loro mandato presso la Santa Sede, ove avessero preso residenza nello Stato della Città del Vaticano.

Quando perciò anche l'Italia entrava in guerra, si trasferivano nel territorio della Città del Vaticano, e precisamente in appositi appartamenti approntati presso l'Ospizio di Santa Marta, l'Ambasciata di Francia, di Polonia, e del Belgio, non che la Legazione di Gran Bretagna presso la Santa Sede. Successivamente l'Ambasciatore del Belgio poteva nuovamente ritornare a risiedere in territorio italiano, nella sua dimora di prima.

NEL PERSONALE DELLA SANTA SEDE

Il 14 dicembre 1939 Sua Eccellenza il Principe Don Francesco Chigi della Rovere è stato nominato Comandante della Guardia Nobile di Sua Santità, e gli veniva successivamente conferito per mano dell'Emo Cardinale Segretario di Stato il Supremo Ordine di Cristo.

Il 17 ottobre 1940 è piamente spirato Mons. Giuseppe Malusardi, Sottosegretario della S. Congregazione degli Affari Ecclesiastici Straordinari; gli è succeduto Mons. Silvio Sericano, Consigliere di Nunziatura e Addetto presso la stessa Sacra Congregazione.

S. E. il Prof. Ing. Gustavo Giovannoni è stato annoverato da Sua Santità fra i componenti il Collegio degli Architetti della Reverenda Fabbrica di San Pietro in Vaticano.

Il 1° agosto l'Illmo e Revmo Mons. Francesco J. Brennan è stato nominato Uditore della S. Romana Rota. Mons. Brennan è il primo ecclesiastico degli Stati Uniti chiamato, in qualità di Uditore, a far parte del Sacro Tribunale.

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END.

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